USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Montana Basin Outlook Report February 1, 2001

Basin Outlook Reports
and
Federal - State - Private
Cooperative Snow Surveys

For more water supply and resource management information, contact:
See Attached List

How forecasts are made

Most of the annual streamflow in the Western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated high in the mountains during winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Predictions are based on careful measurements of snow water equivalent at selected index points. Precipitation, temperature, soil moisture and antecedent streamflow data are combined with snowpack data to prepare runoff forecasts. Streamflow forecasts are coordinated by Natural Resources Conservation Service and National Weather Service hydrologists. This report presents a comprehensive picture of water supply conditions for areas dependent upon surface runoff. It includes selected streamflow forecasts, summarized snowpack and precipitation data, reservoir storage data, and narratives describing current conditions.

Snowpack data are obtained by using a combination of manual and automated SNOTEL measurement methods. Manual readings of snow depth and water equivalent are taken at locations called snow courses on a monthly or semi-monthly schedule during the winter. In addition, snow water equivalent, precipitation and temperature are monitored on a daily basis and transmitted via meteor burst telemetry to central data collection facilities. Both monthly and daily data are used to project snowmelt runoff.

Forecast uncertainty originates from two sources: (1) uncertainty of future hydrologic and climatic conditions, and (2) error in the forecasting procedure. To express the uncertainty in the most probable forecast, four additional forecasts are provided. The actual streamflow can be expected to exceed the most probable forecast 50% of the time. Similarly, the actual streamflow volume can be expected to exceed the 90% forecast volume 90% of the time. The same is true for the 70%, 30%, and 10% forecasts. Generally, the 90% and 70% forecasts reflect drier than normal hydrologic and climatic conditions; the 30% and 10% forecasts reflect wetter than normal conditions. As the forecast season progresses, a greater portion of the future hydrologic and climatic uncertainty will become known and the additional forecasts will move closer to the most probable forecast.

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Basin Outlook Reports
and
Federal - State - Private
Cooperative Snow Surveys

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Bozeman, Montana

Where to Get More Information

Beaverhead County
Victor Hager
683-4963

Big Horn County
Ken Scalzone
665-3442

Blaine County
Matthew Crampton
357-2320

Broadwater County
Kelly Morris
266-3146

Carbon County
Gregory Evertz
962-3641

Carter County
Wayne Yost
775-6355

Cascade County
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Chouteau County
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Terry Heck
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Linda Peterson-Lohse
365-5566

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Glen Green
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Ann Fischer
778-2217

Fergus County
Theodore Hawn
538-7401

Flathead County
Mary Pochelon
752-4242

Gallatin County
Gordon Hill
522-4018

Garfield County
Clarence Clayton
557-2232

Glacier County
Mark Johnson
873-4292

Golden Valley County
John Rouane Jr.
323-2103

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Annette Johnson
859-3291

Hill County
Jamie Selting
265-6792

Jefferson County
Laurel Ovitt
287-3215

Judith Basin County
Rick Caquelin
566-2311

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759-5778

Lincoln County
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Mike Barron
842-5741

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485-2744

Meagher County
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547-3633

Mineral County
Joe Wang
829-3395

Missoula County
Joe Wang
829-3395

Musselshell County
John Rouane Jr.
323-2103

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Nikki Lott
429-6646

Phillips County
Lorna Philp
654-1334

(over)

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278-3922

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436-2417

Powell County
Glen Green
846-1703

Prairie County
Bob Prongua
635-5381

Ravalli County
Lane Johnson
363-5010

Richland County
Dave Haverkamp
433-2103

Roosevelt County
Robert Bray
787-5232

Rosebud County
Rocky Schwagler
356-7333

Sanders County
Don Feist
826-3701

Sheridan County
Tim Solberg
765-1801

Silver Bow County
Laurel Ovitt
287-3215

Stillwater County
Philip Sandoval
322-5359

Sweet Grass County
Dan Glasgow
932-5160

Teton County
Stacy Denny-Eneboe
466-5722

Toole County
Misty Vermulm
434-5234

Treasure County
Stewart Greer
342-5510

Valley County
Denise Wiedenheft
228-4337

Wheatland County
John Oiestad
632-5534

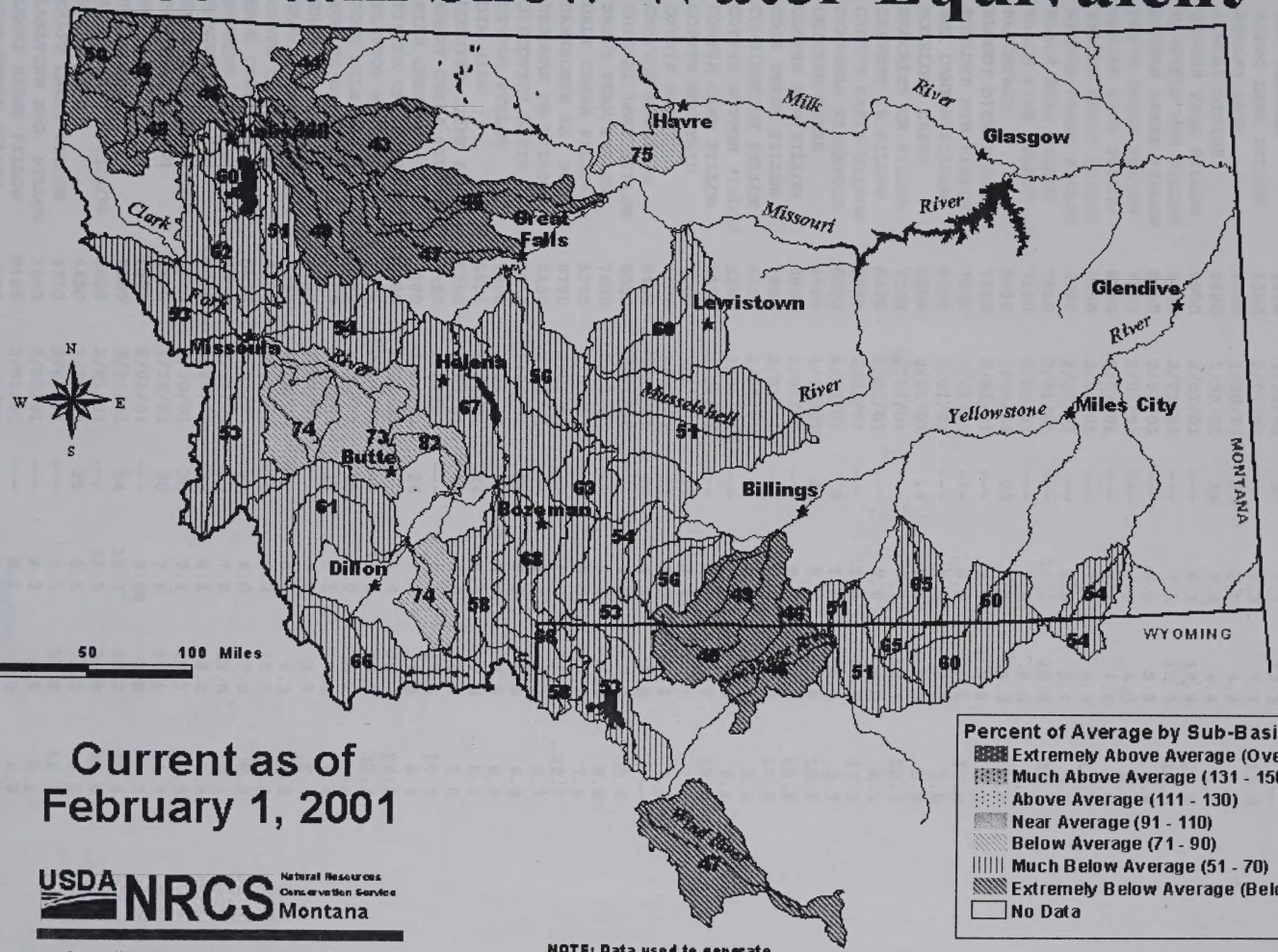
Wibaux County
Katrina Johnson
796-2211

Yellowstone County
Shad Weber
657-6135

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Mountain Snow Water Equivalent



Current as of February 1, 2001

USDA NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service Montana

http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov

NOTE: Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Percent of Average by Sub-Basin

- Extremely Above Average (Over 150)
- Much Above Average (131 - 150)
- Above Average (111 - 130)
- Near Average (91 - 110)
- Below Average (71 - 90)
- Much Below Average (51 - 70)
- Extremely Below Average (Below 51)
- No Data

Numbers within each sub-basin represent the percent of average.

Mountain Snow Water Equivalent
Cruising Speed
Departure Point

MONTANA SNOTEL AND SNOW COURSE DATA

FEBRUARY 2001

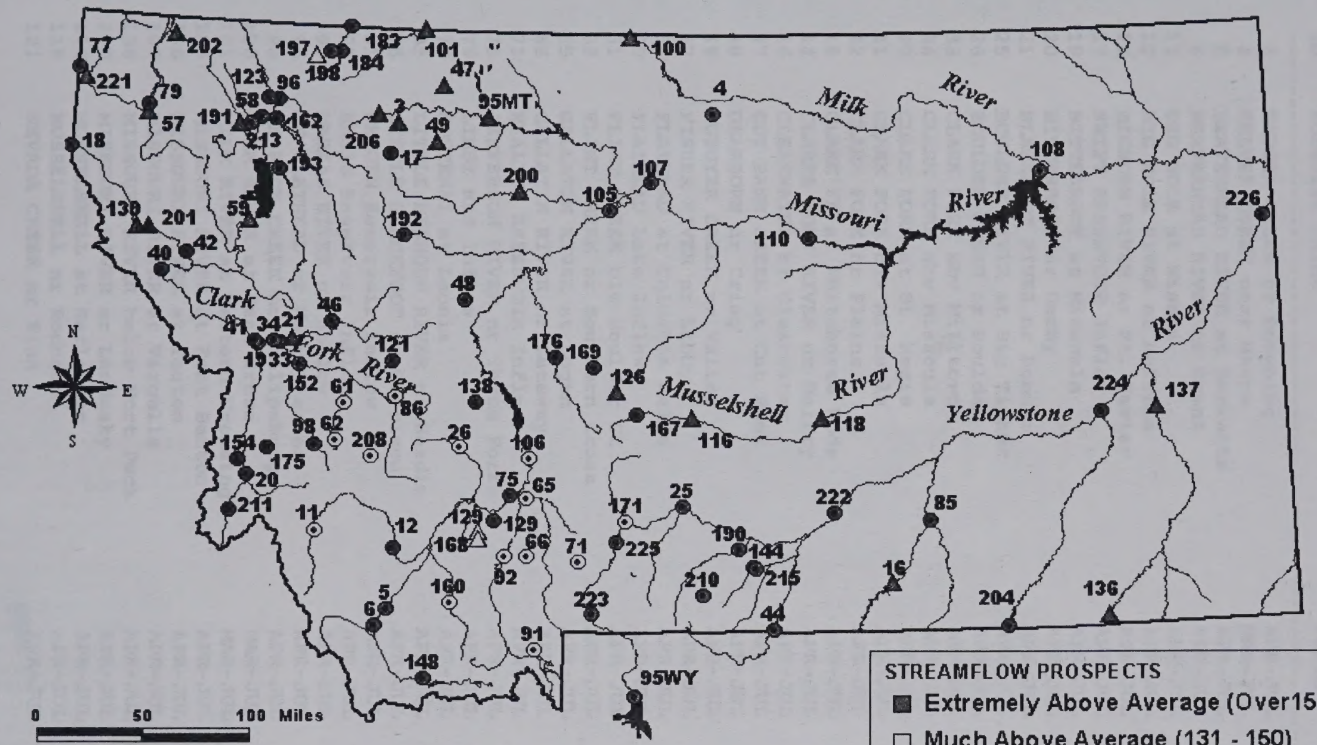
SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
ABE LINCOLN	4440	1/31/01	27	7.7	13.3	--
ALBRO LAKE PILLOW	8300	2/01/01	---	7.3	7.4	13.4
ASHLEY LAKE	4000	1/30/01	13	2.8	4.4	3.9
ASHLEY DIVIDE	4820	1/30/01	16	3.4	4.4	5.0
BADGER PASS PILLOW	6900	2/01/01	---	9.1	18.9	22.8
BANFIELD MTN PILLOW	5600	2/01/01	---	7.1	12.3	13.6
BARKER LAKES PILLOW	8250	2/01/01	---	6.8	5.5	9.4
BASIN CREEK PILLOW	7180	2/01/01	---	4.6	4.0	5.0
BEAGLE SPGS PILLOW	8850	2/01/01	---	5.6	4.9	5.3
BEAVER CREEK PILLOW	7850	2/01/01	---	7.9	9.9	11.6
BISSON CREEK PILLOW	4920	2/01/01	---	4.5	5.4	6.9
BLACK BEAR PILLOW	7950	2/01/01	---	14.3	20.6	24.5
BLACK PINE PILLOW	7100	2/01/01	---	5.0	6.6	8.0
BLACKTAIL	5650	1/30/01	23	5.4	9.3	8.9
BLOODY DICK PILLOW	7550	2/01/01	---	4.0	8.8	8.2
BOULDER MTN PILLOW	7950	2/01/01	---	6.6	10.1	12.8
BOX CANYON PILLOW	6700	2/01/01	---	3.9	6.7	7.0
BOXELDER CREEK	5100	2/01/01	19	3.6	4.0	5.8
BRACKETT CR PILLOW	7320	2/01/01	---	7.7	12.4	12.9
CALVERT CR PILLOW	6430	2/01/01	---	2.8	6.5	6.1
CARROT BASIN PILLOW	9000	2/01/01	---	11.4	15.1	17.3
CHESSMAN RESERVOIR	6200	1/30/01	9	1.8	1.1	2.7
CHICKEN CREEK	4060	1/26/01	24	5.8	12.8	10.9
CLOVER MDW PILLOW	8800	2/01/01	---	9.6	9.0	11.5
COLE CREEK PILLOW	7850	2/01/01	---	4.9	4.9	10.2
COMBINATION PILLOW	5600	2/01/01	---	2.5	2.6	3.8
COPPER BOTTOM PILLOW	5200	2/01/01	---	4.0	7.9	7.4
COPPER CAMP PILLOW	6950	2/01/01	---	8.1	19.7	22.6
COPPER MOUNTAIN	7700	1/27/01	28	7.4	--	7.0
COYOTE HILL	4200	1/30/01	22	4.0	7.1	7.5
CREVICE MOUNTAIN	8400	1/26/01	21	4.9	6.8	--
CRYSTAL LAKE PILLOW	6050	2/01/01	---	7.5	7.3	8.4
DAISY PEAK PILLOW	7600	2/01/01	---	3.2	5.8	8.8
DALY CREEK PILLOW	5780	2/01/01	---	5.0	7.0	7.8
DARKHORSE LK. PILLOW	8700	2/01/01	---	11.0	21.7	22.0
DEADMAN CR PILLOW	6450	2/01/01	---	4.2	8.3	6.7
DISCOVERY BASIN	7050	1/25/01	28	6.3	5.0	6.8
DIVIDE PILLOW	7800	2/01/01	---	8.0	4.5	6.9
DIX HILL	6400	1/28/01	24	5.9	7.6	8.2
DUPUYER CREEK PILLOW	5750	2/01/01	---	3.0	5.0	7.8
EMERY CREEK PILLOW	4350	2/01/01	---	5.1	10.4	10.9
FISH CREEK	8000	1/24/01	24	5.6	4.0	6.4
FISHER CREEK PILLOW	9100	2/01/01	---	11.4	20.6	24.2
FLATTOP MTN PILLOW	6300	2/01/01	---	14.0	26.7	32.3
FOUR MILE	6900	1/31/01	15	3.0	--	--
FOURTH OF JULY	3450	1/31/01	21	5.1	7.2	6.4
FROHNER MDWS PILLOW	6480	2/01/01	---	3.6	3.5	5.6
GARVER CREEK PILLOW	4250	2/01/01	---	4.1	6.3	7.3
GRAVE CRK PILLOW	4300	2/01/01	---	6.3	10.3	11.9
HAND CREEK PILLOW	5030	2/01/01	---	4.0	7.8	8.3
HAWKINS LAKE PILLOW	6450	2/01/01	---	7.9	13.6	19.3
HEBGEN DAM	6550	1/27/01	22	4.1	8.2	8.3
HELL ROARING DIVIDE	5770	1/30/01	30	7.4	19.1	20.5
HERRIG JUNCTION	4850	1/26/01	30	7.6	16.0	16.7
HOLBROOK	4530	2/01/01	---	3.0E	7.0	7.2
HOODOO BASIN	6050	2/01/01	54	15.3	29.2	33.4
HOODOO BASIN PILLOW	6050	2/01/01	---	12.5	26.8	31.0
INTERGAARD	6450	1/30/01	21	3.6	3.2	5.2
KRAFT CREEK PILLOW	4750	2/01/01	---	6.3	11.2	11.4
LAKEVIEW RDG. PILLOW	7400	2/01/01	---	4.3	3.8	8.3
LEMHI RIDGE PILLOW	8100	2/01/01	---	6.2	6.5	6.9
LICK CREEK PILLOW	6860	2/01/01	---	5.3	5.1	8.1
LONE MOUNTAIN PILLOW	8880	2/01/01	---	9.2	10.5	11.5
LOWER TWIN PILLOW	7900	2/01/01	---	7.2	9.0	12.3
LUBRECHT PILLOW	4680	2/01/01	---	3.3	4.0	4.5
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 3	5450	1/30/01	15	2.8	4.2	5.0

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 6	4040	1/30/01	12	2.2	2.2	3.2
LUBRECHT HYDROPLOT	4200	1/30/01	17	3.1	3.5	5.4
MADISON PLT PILLOW	7750	2/01/01	---	8.0	11.0	16.1
MANY GLACIER PILLOW	4900	2/01/01	---	5.2	10.4	11.4
MARIAS PASS	5250	2/01/01	24	6.7	12.0	11.2
MAYNARD CREEK	6210	1/31/01	25	5.2	6.3	9.7
MONUMENT PK PILLOW	8850	2/01/01	---	8.5	13.0	13.9
MOSS PEAK PILLOW	6780	2/01/01	---	14.1	19.9	24.4
MT LOCKHART PILLOW	6400	2/01/01	---	6.7	12.8	14.0
MULE CREEK PILLOW	8300	2/01/01	---	7.1	11.0	10.2
NEVADA RIDGE PILLOW	7020	2/01/01	---	6.1	10.1	9.1
NEW WORLD	6900	1/31/01	33	8.0	6.2	9.6
NEWTON MOUNTAIN	5600	1/30/01	37	10.3	22.1	22.2
NEZ PERCE CMP PILLOW	5650	2/01/01	---	5.7	10.7	9.8
NEZ PERCE CREEK	6600	1/27/01	16	4.0	3.9	4.5
NOISY BASIN PILLOW	6040	2/01/01	---	11.3	24.9	26.2
N.F. ELK CR PILLOW	6250	2/01/01	---	5.2	7.4	8.1
NF JOCKO PILLOW	6330	2/01/01	---	14.0	28.7	28.6
N.E. ENTRANCE PILLOW	7350	2/01/01	---	3.3	7.3	6.4
OPHIR PARK	7150	1/28/01	26	6.5	8.4	11.2
PETERSON MDW PILLOW	7200	2/01/01	---	5.6	4.4	6.5
PICKFOOT CRK PILLOW	6650	2/01/01	---	4.1	5.6	7.1
PIKE CREEK PILLOW	5930	2/01/01	---	6.7	14.9	17.1
PIPESTONE PASS	7200	1/28/01	14	2.9	2.4	3.3
PLACER BASIN PILLOW	8830	2/01/01	---	6.2	10.4	12.4
PORCUPINE PILLOW	6500	2/01/01	---	3.8	3.4	4.8
RED TOP	5260	1/30/01	33	9.2	18.2	18.4
ROCKER PEAK PILLOW	8000	2/01/01	---	7.9	5.9	9.8
ROCKY BOY PILLOW	4700	2/01/01	---	3.0	2.5	3.6
ROCKY BOY	4700	2/01/01	11	2.0	1.6	3.2
SADDLE MTN PILLOW	7900	2/01/01	---	8.9	14.1	17.0
SHORT CREEK PILLOW	7000	2/01/01	---	3.0	2.8	3.6
SHOWER FALLS PILLOW	8100	2/01/01	---	10.1	11.7	14.8
SKALKAHO PILLOW	7260	2/01/01	---	8.8	14.1	15.8
S.F. SHIELDS PILLOW	8100	2/01/01	---	7.4	7.1	10.7
SPOTTED BEAR MTN.	7000	2/01/01	---	5.2E	9.7	10.3
SPUR PARK PILLOW	8100	2/01/01	---	8.3	12.6	14.8
SLEEPING WOMAN PILL	6150	2/01/01	---	5.9	9.6	9.9
STAHL PEAK PILLOW	6030	2/01/01	---	10.3	20.2	23.5
STORM LAKE	7780	1/25/01	34	7.5	5.8	8.7
STRYKER BASIN	6180	1/26/01	34	9.4	17.6	21.6
STUART MOUNTAIN PILL	7400	2/01/01	---	12.0	20.4	20.3
SUCKER CREEK	3960	2/01/01	2	.6	.5	.5
TAYLOR ROAD	4080	2/01/01	13	2.4	1.2	2.9
TEN MILE LOWER	6600	1/30/01	17	3.2	2.8	5.0
TEN MILE MIDDLE	6800	1/30/01	24	5.0	4.2	7.6
TEPEE CREEK PILLOW	8000	2/01/01	---	6.7	7.0	8.6
TIZER BASIN PILLOW	6840	2/01/01	---	5.7	5.3	7.2
TRINKUS LAKE	6100	2/01/01	---	13.7E	26.0	25.0
TRUMAN CREEK	4060	1/31/01	15	3.2	2.8	3.2
TV MOUNTAIN	6800	2/01/01	---	7.1E	10.4	12.0
TWELVEMILE PILLOW	5600	2/01/01	---	6.9	13.8	12.5
TWENTY-ONE MILE	7150	2/01/01	30	5.4	10.1	11.7
TWIN LAKES PILLOW	6400	2/01/01	---	13.3	28.8	26.3
UPPER HOLLAND LAKE	6200	2/01/01	---	12.0E	24.7	23.4
WALDRON PILLOW	5600	2/01/01	---	3.8	7.4	7.8
WARM SPRINGS PILLOW	7800	2/01/01	---	9.9	11.8	14.1
WEASEL DIVIDE	5450	1/31/01	34	9.2	20.6	21.8
WEST YELLOWSTONE	6700	2/01/01	18	3.2	5.6	7.8
WEST YELL'ST PILLOW	6700	2/01/01	---	3.2	5.2	7.8
WHISKEY CREEK PILLOW	6800	2/01/01	---	4.5	8.3	11.2
WHITE MILL PILLOW	8700	2/01/01	---	7.5	15.8	16.8
WOOD CREEK PILLOW	5960	2/01/01	---	3.3	6.0	7.1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Streamflow Prospects for Montana



Numbers represent individual station identification numbers.

USDA NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service Montana

http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov

Current as of February 1, 2001

NOTE: Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

STREAMFLOW PROSPECTS

- ■ Extremely Above Average (Over150)
- □ Much Above Average (131 - 150)
- ● Above Average (111 - 130)
- ○ Near Average (91 - 110)
- ⊙ Below Average (71 - 90)
- ◉ Much Below Average (51 - 70)
- ▲ Extremely Below Average (Below 51)
- △ No Data

Streamflow Prospects for Montana

Streamflow Prospects February 1, 2001

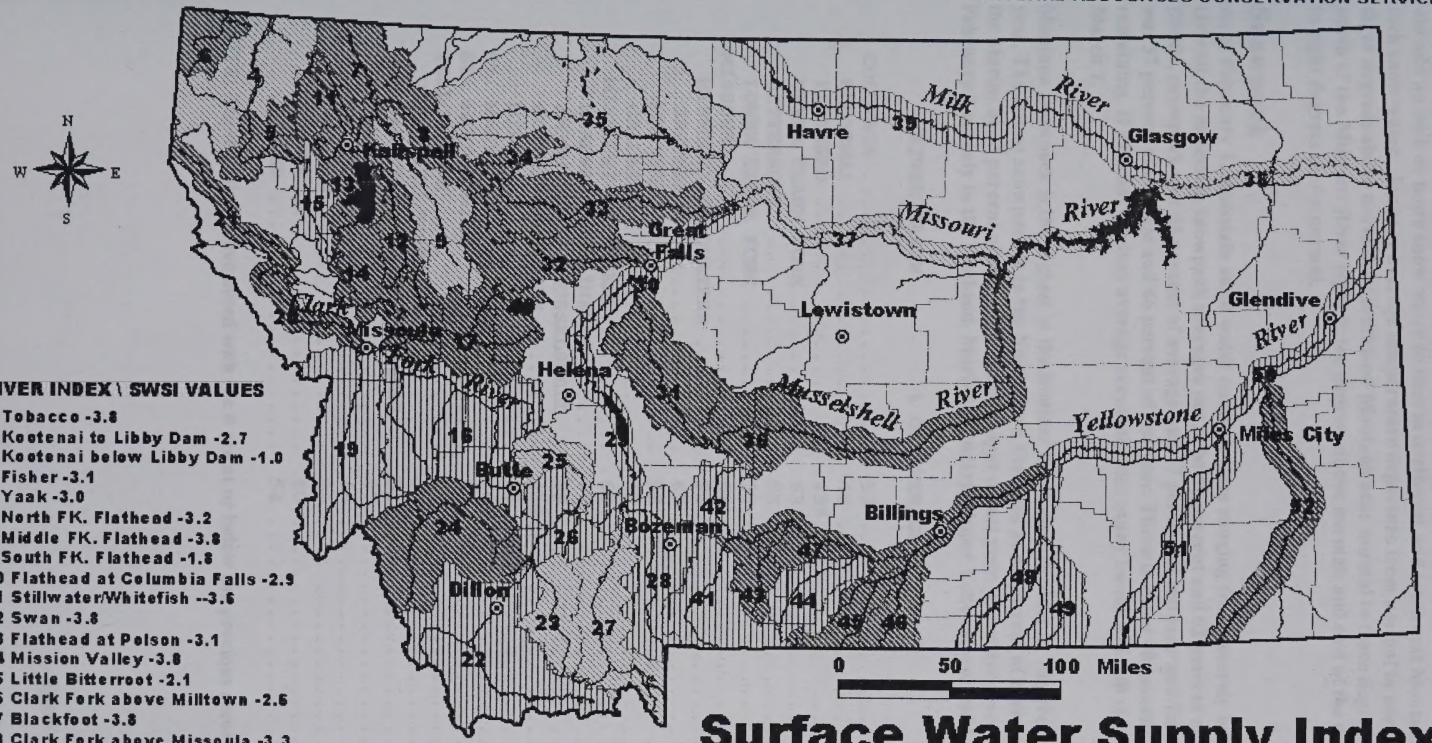
ID	Forecast Point	Period	% of Average*
3	BADGER CREEK nr Browning	APR-JUL	48
4	BEAVER CREEK near Havre	MAR-JUL	68
5	BEAVERHEAD RIVER at Barretts	APR-JUL	64
6	BEAVERHEAD RIVER nr Grant	APR-JUL	64
11	BIG HOLE at Wisdom	APR-JUL	73
12	BIG HOLE RIVER nr Melrose	APR-JUL	70
16	BIGHORN RIVER nr St. Xavier	APR-JUL	50
17	SWIFT RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	59
19	BITTERROOT at Missoula	APR-JUL	61
20	BITTERROOT nr Darby	APR-JUL	60
21	BLACKFOOT RIVER nr Bonner	APR-JUL	40
25	BOULDER RIVER at Big Timber	APR-JUL	64
26	BOULDER RIVER nr Boulder	APR-JUL	82
33	CLARK FORK abv Milltown	APR-JUL	67
34	CLARK FORK abv Missoula	APR-JUL	51
40	CLARK FORK at St. Regis	APR-JUL	57
41	CLARK FORK blw Missoula	APR-JUL	56
42	CLARK FORK nr Plains	APR-JUL	53
18	CLARK FK at Whitehorse Rpds	APR-JUL	54
44	CLARKS FORK RIVER nr Belfry	APR-JUL	61
46	CLEARWATER nr Clearwater	APR-JUL	67
47	CUT BANK CREEK at Cut Bank	APR-JUL	48
48	DEARBORN nr Criag	APR-JUL	54
49	DUPUYER CREEK nr Valier	APR-JUL	39
57	FISHER RIVER nr Libby	APR-JUL	47
58	FLATHEAD at Columbia Falls	APR-JUL	58
59	FLATHEAD Lake Inflow	APR-JUL	50
61	FLINT CREEK blw Boulder Ck	APR-JUL	79
62	FLINT CREEK nr Southern Cross	APR-JUL	77
65	GALLATIN RIVER at Logan	APR-JUL	74
66	GALLATIN RIVER nr Gateway	APR-JUL	76
71	HYALITE RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	78
75	JEFFERSON RIVER nr Three Forks	APR-JUL	64
79	LIBBY RES Inflow	APR-JUL	61
77	KOOTENAI at Leonia	APR-JUL	58
85	LITTLE BIGHORN RIVER nr Hardin	APR-JUL	56
86	LITTLE BLACKFOOT nr Garrison	APR-JUL	75
91	HEBGEN Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	74
92	ENNIS Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	76
95	MARIAS RIVER nr Shelby	APR-JUL	27
96	MF FLATHEAD nr West Glacier	APR-JUL	58
98	MF ROCK CREEK nr Philipsburg	APR-JUL	61
100	MILK RIVER at East Cross.	MAR-JUL	26
101	MILK RIVER at Western Crossing	MAR-JUL	26
105	MISSOURI RIVER at Fort Benton	APR-JUL	62
106	MISSOURI RIVER at Toston	APR-JUL	71
107	MISSOURI RIVER at Virgelle	APR-JUL	58
108	MISSOURI RIVER below Fort Peck	APR-JUL	56
110	MISSOURI RIVER nr Landusky	APR-JUL	58
116	MUSSELSHELL at Harlowton	APR-JUL	38
118	MUSSELSHELL nr Roundup	APR-JUL	30
121	NEVADA CREEK nr Finn	APR-JUL	55

ID	Forecast Point	Period	% of Average*
126	NF MUSSELSHELL nr Delpine	APR-JUL	44
136	POWDER RIVER at Moorehead	APR-JUL	45
137	POWDER RIVER near Locate	APR-JUL	40
138	PRICKLY PEAR CREEK nr Clancy	APR-JUL	70
139	PROSPECT CREEK at Thompson Falls	APR-JUL	45
144	COONEY RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	64
148	LIMA RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	67
152	ROCK CREEK nr Clinton	APR-JUL	59
154	COMO RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	70
160	RUBY RIVER Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	78
162	HUNGRY HORSE Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	59
167	SF MUSSELSHELL abv Martinsdale	APR-JUL	58
169	SHEEP CREEK nr White Sulphur Spgs.	APR-JUL	62
171	SHIELDS RIVER nr Livingston	APR-JUL	74
175	SKALKAHO CK nr Hamilton	APR-JUL	67
176	SMITH RIVER abv Eagle Creek	APR-JUL	57
183	ST. MARY RIVER at US/CAN Border	APR-JUL	57
184	ST. MARY RIVER nr Babb	APR-JUL	63
190	STILLWATER RIVER nr Absarokee	APR-JUL	60
191	STILLWATER nr Whitefish	APR-JUL	32
192	GIBSON Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	54
193	SWAN RIVER nr Bigfork	APR-JUL	52
198	LAKE SHERBURNE Inflow	APR-JUL	63
200	TETON nr Dutton	APR-JUL	42
201	THOMPSON nr Thompson Falls	APR-JUL	43
202	TOBACCO RIVER nr Eureka	APR-JUL	45
204	TONGUE RIVER RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	67
206	TWO MEDICINE RIVER nr Browning	APR-JUL	44
208	WARM SPRINGS CK at Anaconda	APR-JUL	87
210	MYSTIC LAKE Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	61
211	WF BITTERROOT nr Conner	APR-JUL	56
213	WHITEFISH nr Kalispell	APR-JUL	53
215	LOWER WILLOW CK RES Inflow	APR-JUL	61
217	WILLOW CREEK Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	51
221	YAAK RIVER nr Troy	APR-JUL	42
222	YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings	APR-JUL	64
223	YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Corwin Spgs.	APR-JUL	65
950	YELLOWSTONE at Lake Outlet	APR-JUL	65
224	YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Miles City	APR-JUL	61
225	YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Livingston	APR-JUL	64
226	YELLOWSTONE RIVER nr Sidney	APR-JUL	61

*Assumes average precipitation and temperatures for the forcast period.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE



RIVER INDEX \ SWSI VALUES

2 Tobacco -3.8
3 Kootenai to Libby Dam -2.7
4 Kootenai below Libby Dam -1.0
5 Fisher -3.1
6 Yaak -3.0
7 North FK. Flathead -3.2
8 Middle FK. Flathead -3.8
9 South FK. Flathead -1.8
10 Flathead at Columbia Falls -2.9
11 Stillwater/Whitefish --3.6
12 Swan -3.8
13 Flathead at Polson -3.1
14 Mission Valley -3.8
15 Little Bitterroot -2.1
16 Clark Fork above Milltown -2.6
17 Blackfoot -3.8
18 Clark Fork above Missoula -3.3
19 Bitterroot -2.9
20 Clark Fork below Bitterroot -3.2
21 Clark Fork below Flathead -3.1
22 Beaverhead -2.6
23 Ruby -1.3
24 Big Hole -3.1
25 Boulder (Jefferson) -1.7
26 Jefferson -2.7
27 Madison -1.4
28 Gallatin -2.5
29 Missouri above Canyon Ferry-2.0
30 Missouri below Canyon Ferry-2.0
31 Smith -3.3
32 Sun -3.3
33 Teton -3.1
34 Birch/Dupuyer Creeks -3.1
35 Marias -1.6
36 Musselshell -3.0
37 Missouri above Fort Peck -1.8
38 Missouri below Fort Peck -1.7
39 Milk -2.8
40 Dearborn near Craig -3.0
41 Yellowstone above Livingston -2.8
42 Shields -2.4
43 Boulder (Yellowstone) -3.1
44 Stillwater -2.9
45 Rock/Red Lodge Creeks -3.1
46 Clarks Fork -3.6
47 Yellowstone above Bighorn -3.0
48 Bighorn below Bighorn Lake -2.3
49 Little Bighorn -2.0
50 Yellowstone below Bighorn -2.7
51 Tongue -2.2
52 Powder -3.0

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) Values

Current as of February 1, 2001

SWSI VALUES

- Extremely Dry -4.0 to -3.0
- Moderately Dry -2.9 to -2.0
- Slightly Dry -1.9 to -1.0
- Near Average -0.9 to 0.9
- Sightly Wet 1.0 to 1.9
- Moderately Wet 2.0 to 2.9
- Extremely Wet 3.0 to 4.0
- SWSI Not Applicable

NOTE: Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

UDSA NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service Montana

http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov

Montana Water Supply Outlook Report as of February 1, 2001

Weather patterns during January resemble those of an El Nino year. Most storm activity was south of Montana. Storm activity we did see was light and scattered across the mountains. Storms during the last few days in January did add an inch or more snow water to sites in northwest and southwest Montana. Other areas gained less than one inch snow water. January average temperature departure from normal in northwest Montana was near normal to three degrees above normal; in southwest Montana near normal to three degrees below normal; east of the divide north of the Missouri River eight to ten degrees above normal; and east of the divide south of the Missouri River three to eight degrees above normal.

Snowpack

As of February 1, mountain snow water contents were ranging from severely below average to below average. Overall the mountain snowpack averages out to be 55 percent and 62 percent of last year. West of the Continental Divide, snowpack was 53 percent of average and 57 percent of last year and East of the continental Divide, snowpack was 57 percent of average and 66 percent of last year. There is about 40 percent of the snow accumulation period remaining. If February brings average accumulations many basins will still remain below to well below average on March 1.

Montana snowpack is the highest in the Boulder Basin near Boulder at 78 percent of average and 111 percent of last year. The lowest snowpack is in the North Fork Flathead at 43 percent of average and 49 percent of last year and in the Marias at 43 percent of average and 50 percent of last year. There are several new record low readings for February 1 namely in the Flathead, Marias, St. Mary, Upper Yellowstone, and Lower Yellowstone River Basins.

RIVER BASIN	% OF AVERAGE	% OF LAST YEAR
COLUMBIA	53	57
KOOTENAI	48	50
FLATHEAD	49#	53
UPPER CLARK FORK	63	75
BITTERROOT	53	53
LOWER CLARK FORK	53	52
MISSOURI	62	77
MISSOURI HEADWATERS	64	80
JEFFERSON	69	85
MADISON	58	74
GALLATIN	65	80
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	60	75
HEADWATERS MAINSTEM	67	93
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	59	69
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	45#	51
MILK	86	122
ST. MARY	44#	52
ST. MARY & MILK	59	76
YELLOWSTONE	52	59
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	53#	63
LOWER YELLOWSTONE (WYOMING)	51#	54
WIND	47	71
SHOSHONE	46	57
BIGHORN	51	62
TONGUE	60	37
POWDER	54	69

NOTE: Those basins above noted with the # are at or below the previous record low snow water content.

Precipitation

January mountain and valley precipitation across the state was 33 percent of average and 37 percent of last year, while the water year precipitation was 65 percent of average and 70 percent of last year.

West of the Continental Divide, January mountain and valley precipitation was 33 percent of average and 36 percent of last year and the water year precipitation was 54 percent of average and 52 percent of last year. East of the Divide, January mountain and valley precipitation was 33 percent of average and 38 percent of last year and the water year precipitation was 74 percent of average and 90 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	JANUARY % OF AVERAGE	WATER YEAR % OF AVERAGE
COLUMBIA	33	54
KOOTENAI	27	39
FLATHEAD	37	49
UPPER CLARK FORK	35	72
BITTERROOT	26	61
LOWER CLARK FORK	35	52
MISSOURI	34	76
JEFFERSON	35	83
MADISON	29	74
GALLATIN	36	70
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	38	94
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	33	74
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	29	56
MILK	49	76
ST. MARY	32	39
YELLOWSTONE	25	64
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	23	63
LOWER YELLOWSTONE (WYOMING)	26	68
WIND	17	51
SHOSHONE	19	69
BIGHORN	36	68
TONGUE	47	70
POWDER	35	72

Reservoirs

Major reservoir storages statewide were 106 percent of average and 103 percent of last year. Reservoir storage west of the Continental Divide was 113 percent of average and 112 percent of last year. East of the Continental Divide, reservoir storages were 96 percent of average and 89 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	% OF AVERAGE	% OF LAST YEAR
COLUMBIA	113	112
KOOTENAI	150	143
FLATHEAD	90	92
UPPER CLARK FORK	63	116
BITTERROOT	78	124
LOWER CLARK FORK	96	93
MISSOURI	94	89
JEFFERSON	72	66
MADISON	117	93
GALLATIN	114	116
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	93	95
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	41	42
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	104	88
MILK	36	39
ST. MARY	44	48
YELLOWSTONE	104	92
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	103	102
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	104	92

Streamflow

Across Montana, streamflows are forecast to average between 45 to 54 percent. West of the Continental Divide, streamflows are forecast to average between 49 and 56 percent. East of the Continental Divide, streamflows are forecast to average between 42 and 53 percent. Should the current weather pattern continue there will be shortages of surface water in unregulated streams. Those areas that experienced surface water shortages last year need to monitor this years snowpack and streamflow forecasts closely in anticipation of possible water shortages again this summer.

Below are averaged river basin streamflow forecast summaries for the period April 1 through July 31. THESE FORECASTS ASSUME NEAR NORMAL SPRING CONDITIONS AND DO NOT ACCOUNT FOR WELL BELOW AVERAGE (70% or less) OR WELL ABOVE AVERAGE (130% or more) SNOWMELT OR SPRING RAIN. Specific forecast probabilities are available in each individual River Basin Report.

RIVER BASIN	April-July THIS YEAR % OF AVERAGE	April-July LAST YEAR % OF AVERAGE
COLUMBIA	49 to 56	80 to 91
KOOTENAI	46 to 51	86 to 96
FLATHEAD	48 to 52	85 to 93
UPPER CLARK FORK	54 to 65	63 to 79
BITTERROOT	56 to 63	84 to 95
LOWER CLARK FORK	43 to 51	80 to 91
MISSOURI	52 to 63	67 to 95
JEFFERSON	56 to 71	51 to 69
MADISON	67 to 75	77 to 86
GALLATIN	66 to 77	72 to 83
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	49 to 61	64 to 80
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	39 to 48	66 to 84
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	37 to 45	69 to 87
MILK	26 to 37	41 to 60
ST. MARY	57 to 61	74 to 81
YELLOWSTONE	49 to 59	62 to 75
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	54 to 64	69 to 80
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	44 to 54	55 to 70

NOTE: The APRIL-JULY LAST YEAR % OF AVERAGE column above is what was forecast last year, NOT what actually occurred.

Surface Water Supply Index

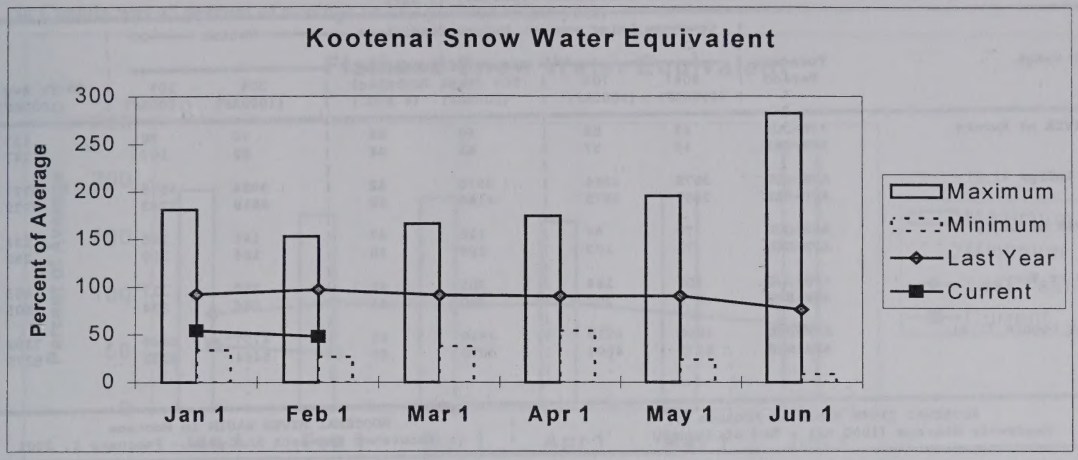
The Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) is a measure of available surface water availability for the spring and summer months. Water users that rely on mountain precipitation can use the index to evaluate seasonal surface water supplies. The SWSI accounts for mountain snowpack, mountain precipitation, streamflow, reservoir storage, and soil moisture.

SWSI RATING	SURFACE WATER CONDITION
+3.0 to +4.0	Extremely Wet
+2.0 to +3.0	Moderately Wet
+1.0 to +2.0	Slightly Wet
-1.0 to +1.0	Near Average
-1.0 to -2.0	Slightly Dry
-2.0 to -3.0	Moderately Dry
-3.0 to -4.0	Extremely Dry

SWSI	Basin
-3.5	Kootenai River at Ft. Steele (Kootenai in Canada)
-3.8	Tobacco River
-2.7	Kootenai Ft. Steele to Libby Dam
-1.0	Kootenai River below Libby Dam
-3.1	Fisher River
-3.0	Yaak River
-3.2	North Fork Flathead River
-3.8	Middle Fork Flathead River
-1.8	South Fork Flathead River
-2.9	Flathead River at Columbia Falls
-3.6	Stillwater/Whitefish Rivers
-3.8	Swan River
-3.1	Flathead River at Polson
-3.8	Mission Valley
-2.1	Little Bitterroot River
-2.6	Clark Fork River above Milltown
-3.8	Blackfoot River
-3.3	Clark Fork River above Missoula
-2.9	Bitterroot River
-3.2	Clark Fork River below Bitterroot River
-3.1	Clark Fork River below Flathead River
-2.6	Beaverhead River
-1.3	Ruby River
-3.1	Big Hole River
-1.7	Boulder River (Jefferson)
-2.7	Jefferson River
-1.4	Madison River
-2.5	Gallatin River
-2.0	Missouri River above Canyon Ferry
-2.0	Missouri River below Canyon Ferry
-3.3	Smith River
-3.3	Sun River
-3.1	Teton River
-3.1	Birch/Dupuyer Creeks
-1.6	Marias River
-3.0	Dearborn River near Craig
-3.0	Musselshell River
-1.8	Missouri River above Ft. Peck
-1.7	Missouri River below Ft. Peck
-2.8	Milk River
-2.8	Yellowstone River above Livingston
-2.4	Shields River
-3.1	Boulder River (Yellowstone)
-2.9	Stillwater River
-3.1	Rock/Red Lodge Creeks
-3.6	Clarks Fork River
-3.0	Yellowstone River above Bighorn River
-2.3	Bighorn River below Bighorn Lake
-2.0	Little Bighorn River
-2.7	Yellowstone River below Bighorn River
-2.2	Tongue River
-3.0	Powder River

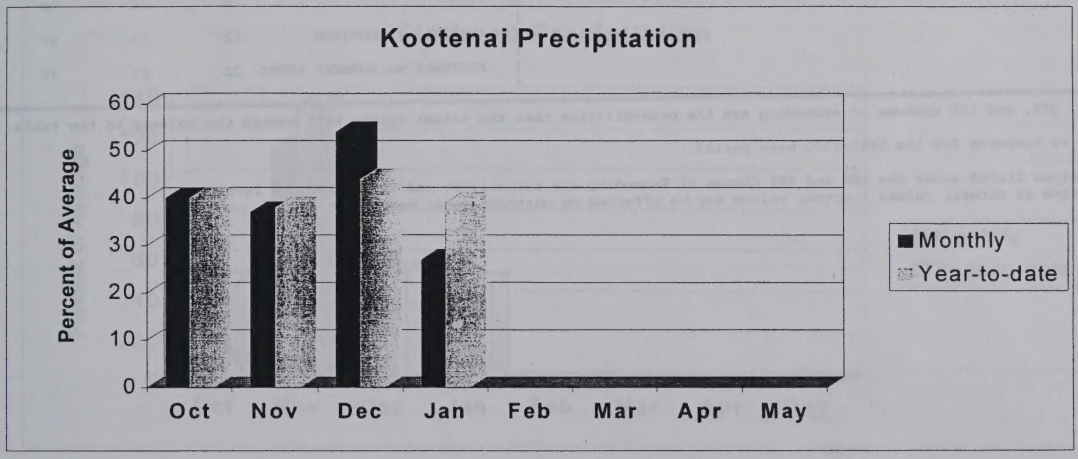
Kootenai River Basin in Montana

Snowpack conditions in the Kootenai River Basin were severely below average and second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 48 percent of average and 50 percent of last year. Stahl Peak SNOTEL and Abe Lincoln snow course have set new record low snow water contents for February 1. Snow water content in the Kootenay in Canada was 44 percent of average and 45 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during January was 26 percent of average and 30 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during January was 31 percent of average and 35 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 39 percent of average and 37 percent of last year.



Lake Koocanusa storage was 150 percent of average and 143 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.5 in the Kootenai at Ft. Steele (Kootenai in Canada); -3.8 in the Tobacco River; -2.7 in the Kootenai Ft. Steele to Libby Dam; -1.0 in the Kootenai River below Libby Dam; -3.1 in the Fisher River; and -3.0 in the Yaak River.

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
TOBACCO RIVER nr Eureka	APR-JUL	43	53	60	45	76	98	133
	APR-SEP	46	57	65	44	82	107	147
LIBBY RES Inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	3075	3364	3570	62	3884	4575	5779
	APR-SEP	3637	3975	4180	62	4518	5263	6772
FISHER RIVER nr Libby	APR-JUL	70	94	110	47	144	195	234
	APR-SEP	78	103	120	48	156	209	250
YAAK RIVER nr Troy	APR-JUL	159	184	205	42	250	317	483
	APR-SEP	172	202	220	44	266	334	505
KOOTENAI at Leonia (1,2)	APR-JUL	3860	4219	4410	61	4797	5648	7199
	APR-SEP	4473	4804	5070	61	5464	6332	8275

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
LAKE KOOCANUSA	5748.0	3562.0	2494.0	2381.0

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
KOOTENAY in CANADA	20	45	44
KOOTENAI MAINTSTEM	3	43	48
TOBACCO	3	50	45
FISHER	1	55	48
YAAK	5	54	50
KOOTENAI in MONTANA	12	50	48
KOOTENAI ab BONNERS FERRY	32	47	46

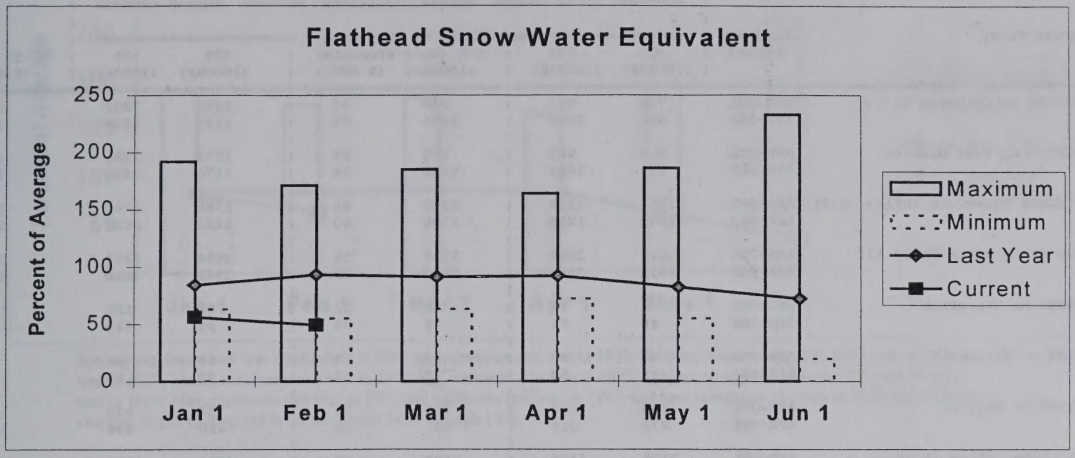
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

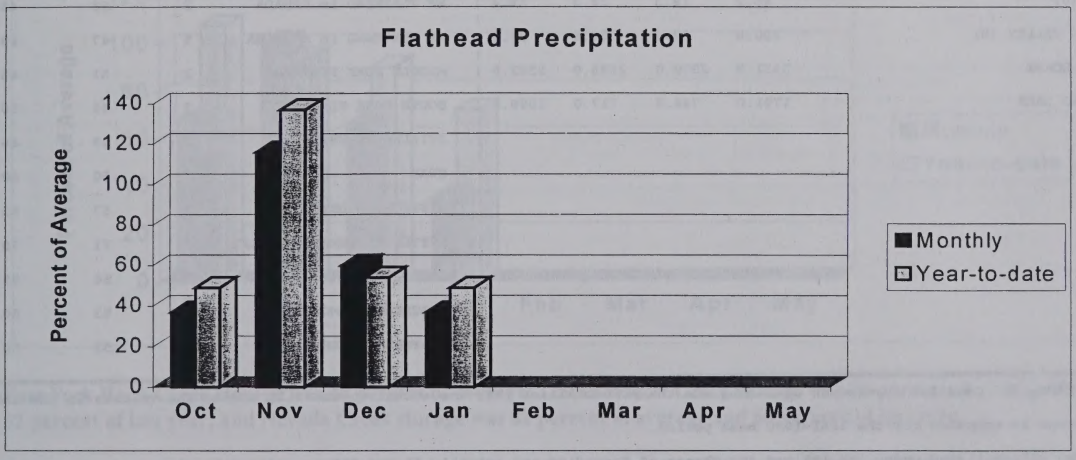
Flathead River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Flathead River Basin were severely below average and has set a new record low snow water content. The basin average is 7.6 inches and in 1977, the previous lowest year, averaged 8.7 inches. Snow water content was 49 percent of average and 53 percent of last year. Sites setting new record low snow water content are Flattop Mountain, Hell Roaring Divide, Badger Pass, Pike Creek, Noisy Basin, Chicken Creek, Hand Creek, Stryker Basin, North Fork Jocko, Bisson Creek, and Sleeping Woman. Snow water content in the North Fork Flathead River in Canada was 45 percent of average and 52 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1992; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1992; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during January was 37 percent of average and 37 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during January was 49 percent of average and 63 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 49 percent of average and 42 percent of last year.



Combined Camas reservoir storage was 99 percent of average and 68 percent of last year; Lower Jocko Lake was 0 percent of average and 0 percent of last year; combined Mission Valley reservoir storage was 90 percent of average and 122 percent of last year; Hungry Horse storage was 100 percent of average and 88 percent of last year; and Flathead Lake storage was 68 percent of average and 104 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.2 in the North Fork Flathead River; -3.8 in the Middle Fork Flathead River; -1.8 in the South Fork Flathead River; -2.9 in the Flathead River at Columbia Falls; -3.6 in the Stillwater/Whitefish Rivers; -3.8 in the Swan River; -3.1 in the Flathead River at Polson; -3.8 in the Mission Valley; and -2.1 in the Little Bitterroot River.

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
NF FLATHEAD nr Columbia Falls	APR-JUL	798	881	950	57	1060	1221	1662
	APR-SEP	900	1010	1075	59	1194	1369	1836
MF FLATHEAD nr West Glacier	APR-JUL	823	905	970	59	1073	1225	1638
	APR-SEP	894	1001	1060	59	1170	1332	1788
HUNGRY HORSE Reservoir Inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	1004	1148	1240	61	1399	1749	2051
	APR-SEP	1088	1219	1320	60	1482	1839	2184
FLATHEAD at Columbia Falls (2)	APR-JUL	2617	3000	3240	59	3654	4264	5482
	APR-SEP	2851	3268	3520	59	3963	4614	5960
STILLWATER nr Whitefish	APR-JUL	38	51	60	32	87	128	189
	APR-SEP	46	61	70	34	99	143	209
WHITEFISH nr Kalispell	APR-JUL	42	50	55	53	65	80	104
	APR-SEP	45	53	60	52	72	89	116
SWAN RIVER nr Bigfork	APR-JUL	233	274	300	52	352	430	583
	APR-SEP	273	319	350	53	410	498	665
FLATHEAD Lake Inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	3178	3433	3630	57	4014	4859	6390
	APR-SEP	3389	3735	3930	57	4347	5264	6926

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
CAMAS (4)	45.2	19.3	28.3	19.4
MISSION VALLEY (8)	100.0	32.6	26.8	36.2
HUNGRY HORSE	3451.0	2370.0	2685.0	2362.0
FLATHEAD LAKE	1791.0	748.0	717.0	1095.0

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
NF FLATHEAD in CANADA	3	52	45
NF FLATHEAD in MONTANA	5	47	43
MIDDLE FORK FLATHEAD	2	51	46
SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD	3	49	50
STILLWATER-WHITEFISH	7	49	46
SWAN	5	50	50
MISSION VALLEY	2	67	63
LITTLE BITTERROOT-ASHLEY	4	71	70
JOCKO	4	56	55
FLATHEAD in MONTANA	23	53	50
FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN	26	53	50

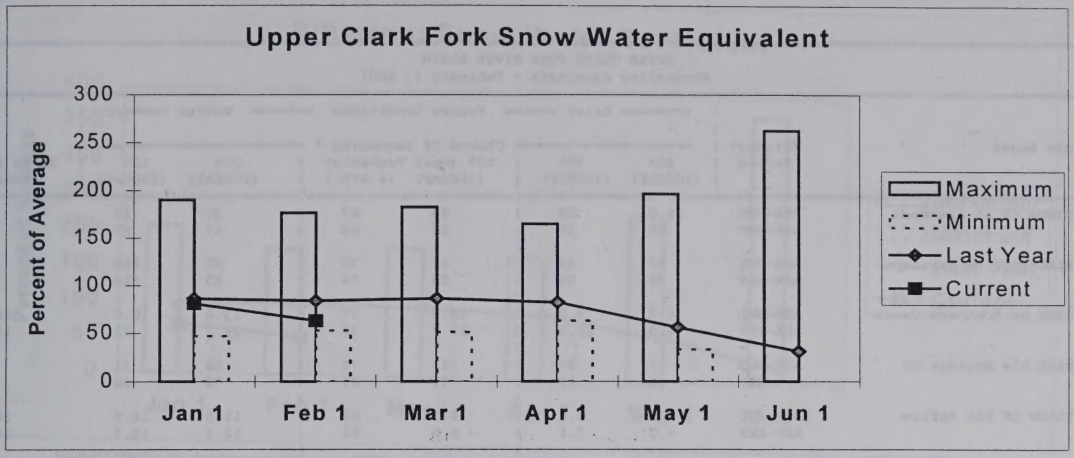
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

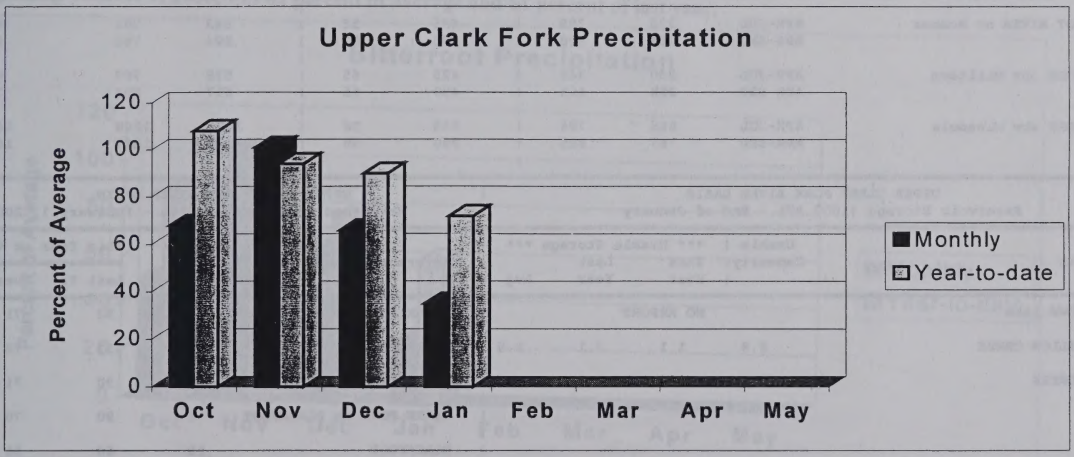
Upper Clark Fork River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin were well below average and second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 63 percent of average and 74 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1994; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during January was 34 percent of average and 40 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during January was 44 percent of average and 78 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 72 percent of average and 80 percent of last year.



East Fork Rock Creek storage was 48 percent of average; Lower Willow Creek storage was 73 percent of average and 52 percent of last year; and Nevada Creek storage was 88 percent of average and 66 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.6 in the Clark Fork River above Milltown; -3.8 in the Blackfoot River; and -3.3 in the Clark Fork River above Missoula.

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<=== Drier === Future Conditions === Wetter ===>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
WARM SPRINGS CK a+ Anaconda	APR-JUL	19.8	28	33	87	39	48	38
	APR-SEP	25	34	40	85	47	57	47
LITTLE BLACKFOOT nr Garrison	APR-JUL	29	49	62	75	80	106	83
	APR-SEP	32	53	66	74	85	112	89
FLINT CREEK nr Southern Cross	APR-JUL	5.5	8.7	10.9	77	13.8	18.0	14.2
	APR-SEP	6.0	10.0	12.7	76	16.2	22	16.7
FLINT CREEK blw Boulder Ck	APR-JUL	24	37	45	79	56	71	57
	APR-SEP	34	49	59	81	72	90	73
LOWER WILLOW CK RES Inflow	APR-JUL	3.9	6.7	8.5	61	11.5	16.0	14.0
	APR-SEP	4.3	7.1	9.0	61	12.1	16.7	14.8
MF ROCK CREEK nr Philipsburg	APR-JUL	28	35	40	61	48	60	66
	APR-SEP	32	40	45	61	54	67	74
ROCK CREEK nr Clinton	APR-JUL	112	151	175	59	217	278	296
	APR-SEP	130	170	195	59	240	307	333
NEVADA CREEK nr Finn	APR-JUL	5.3	8.4	10.5	55	14.2	19.7	19.1
	APR-SEP	6.3	9.4	11.5	55	15.4	21	21
CLEARWATER nr Clearwater	APR-JUL	77	100	115	67	138	171	172
	APR-SEP	81	105	120	66	144	178	181
BLACKFOOT RIVER nr Bonner	APR-JUL	330	389	435	52	543	701	835
	APR-SEP	364	428	480	52	594	762	926
CLARK FORK abv Milltown	APR-JUL	238	349	425	65	539	707	652
	APR-SEP	284	405	490	65	617	804	755
CLARK FORK abv Missoula	APR-JUL	665	784	865	58	1020	1248	1487
	APR-SEP	767	885	980	58	1149	1397	1681

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
GEORGETOWN LAKE		NO REPORT		
LOWER WILLOW CREEK	4.9	1.1	2.1	1.5
NEVADA CREEK	12.6	3.8	5.8	4.3

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
CLARK FORK ab FLINT CREEK	10	92	71
FLINT CREEK	6	111	78
ROCK CREEK	3	90	71
CLARK FORK ab BLACKFOOT	16	90	70
BLACKFOOT	13	60	55
UPPER CLARK FORK BASIN	27	75	63

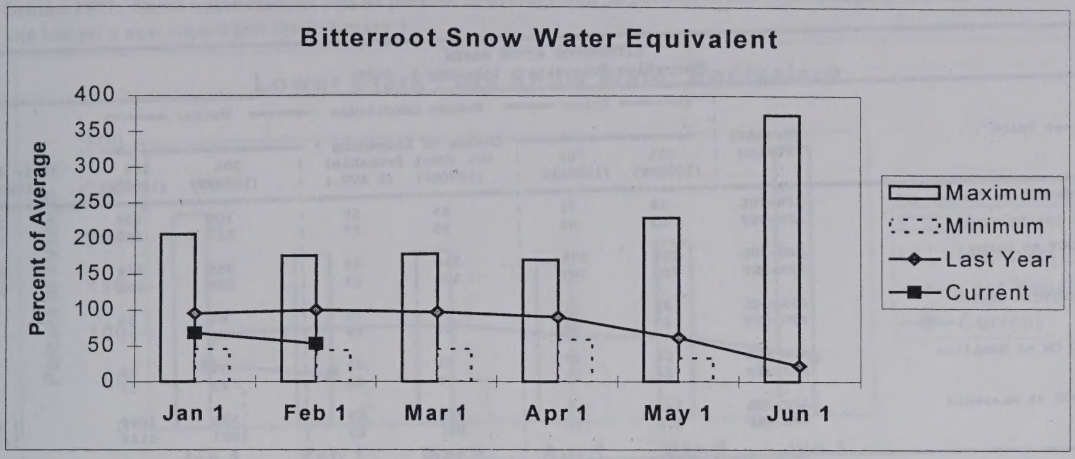
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

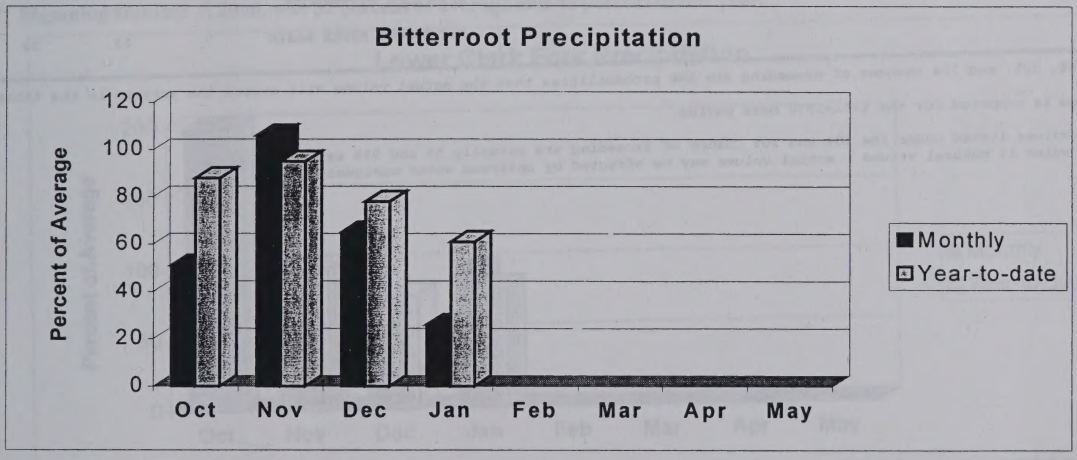
Bitterroot River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Bitterroot River Basin were well below average and second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 53 percent of average and 53 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was 1972 and 1974 and minimum swe was in 1987 and 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during January was 27 percent of average and 27 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during January was 18 percent of average and 20 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 61 percent of average and 61 percent of last year.



Painted Rocks Lake storage was 70 percent of average and 106 percent of last year and Como storage was 86 percent of average and 148 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.9 in the Bitterroot River.

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<= Drier = Future Conditions = Wetter =>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
WF BITTERROOT nr Conner (2)	APR-JUL	58	74	85	56	105	135	152
	APR-SEP	63	83	95	57	117	150	166
BITTERROOT nr Darby	APR-JUL	226	275	310	63	366	449	491
	APR-SEP	253	307	340	63	398	483	540
COMO RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	45	51	55	70	61	69	79
	APR-SEP	47	53	57	69	63	71	83
SKALKAHO CK nr Hamilton	APR-JUL	21	27	31	67	37	46	46
	APR-SEP	24	31	35	66	42	51	53
BITTERROOT at Missoula	APR-JUL	560	715	820	63	925	1080	1300
	APR-SEP	616	779	890	63	1001	1164	1420

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
PAINTED ROCKS LAKE	31.7	8.9	8.4	12.7
COMO	34.9	9.6	6.5	11.1

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
WEST FORK BITTERROOT	2	59	54
EAST SIDE BITTERROOT	3	64	56
WEST SIDE BITTERROOT	3	46	50
BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN	7	53	53

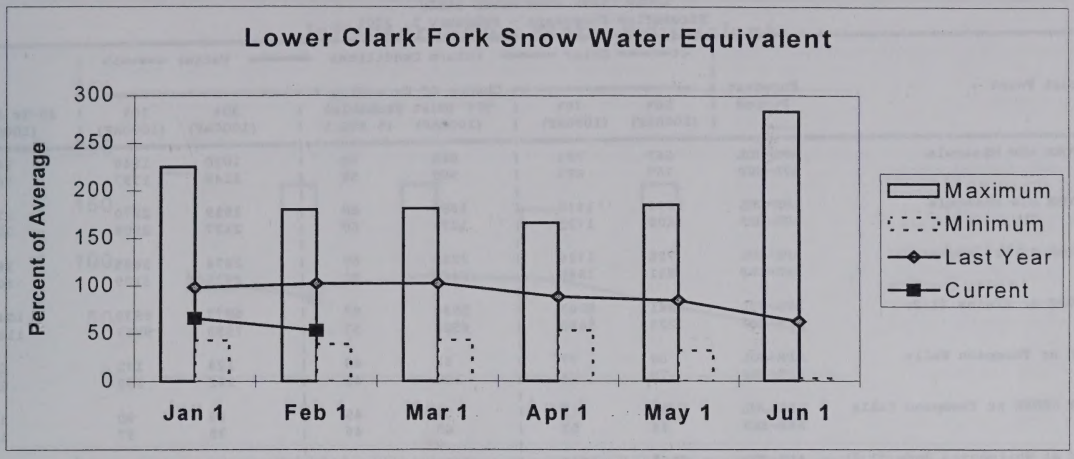
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

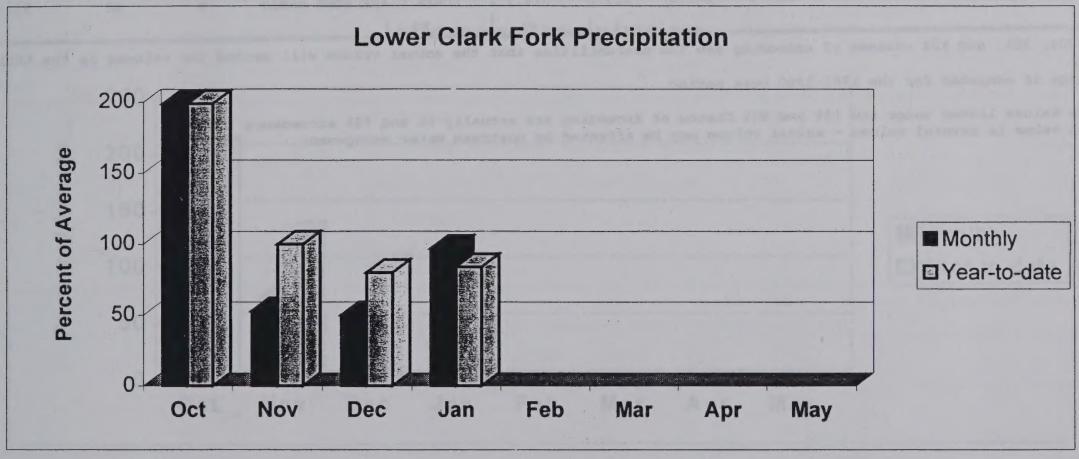
Lower Clark Fork River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Lower Clark Fork River Basin were well below average and second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 53 percent of average and 52 percent of last year. Sleeping Woman SNOTEL site has set a new record low for February 1.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during January was 32 percent of average and 30 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during January was 44 percent of average and 51 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 52 percent of average and 48 percent of last year.



Noxon Rapids storage was 96 percent of average and 93 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.2 in the Clark Fork River below Bitterroot River and -3.1 in the Clark Fork River below Flathead River.

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Chance Of Exceeding *		Future Conditions		====== Wetter ======>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
CLARK FORK abv Missoula	APR-JUL	665	784	865	58	1020	1248	1487
	APR-SEP	767	885	980	58	1149	1397	1681
CLARK FORK blw Missoula	APR-JUL	1091	1442	1680	60	1919	2270	2788
	APR-SEP	1509	1725	1870	60	2127	2506	3099
CLARK FORK at St. Regis (1)	APR-JUL	725	1746	2210	60	2674	3695	3686
	APR-SEP	811	1945	2460	60	2975	4109	4095
CLARK FORK nr Plains (1,2)	APR-JUL	2941	5003	5940	57	6877	8939	10450
	APR-SEP	3223	5490	6520	57	7550	9817	11470
THOMPSON nr Thompson Falls	APR-JUL	58	77	92	43	124	172	214
	APR-SEP	70	94	108	45	142	192	240
PROSPECT CREEK at Thompson Falls	APR-JUL	39	49	55	45	69	90	123
	APR-SEP	44	53	60	46	75	97	132
CLARK FK at Whitehorse Rpds (1,2)	APR-JUL	3162	5526	6600	56	7674	10038	11730
	APR-SEP	3477	6079	7260	56	8441	11043	12910

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
NOXON RAPIDS	335.0	301.1	323.6	314.2

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
LOWER CLARK FORK BASIN	8	52	53

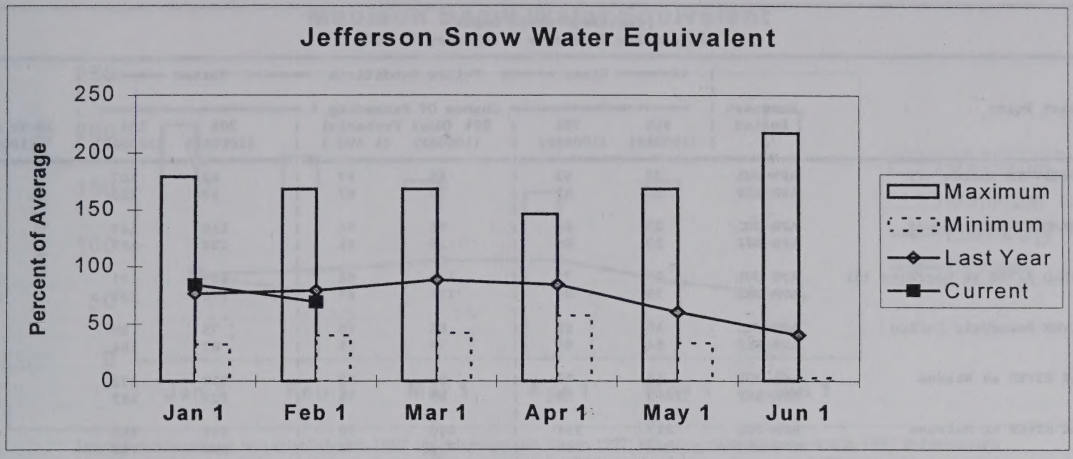
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

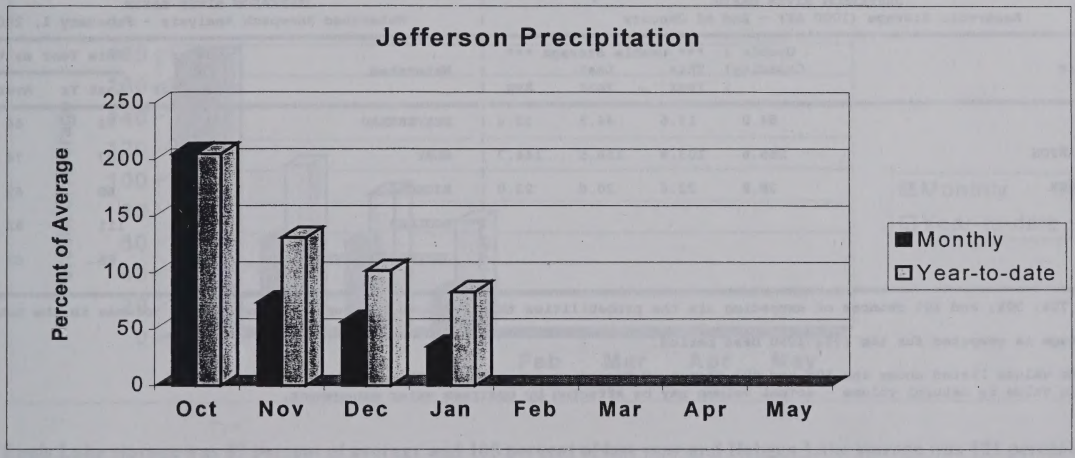
Jefferson River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Jefferson River Basin were well below average and third lowest of record behind 1977 and 1994 respectively. Snow water content was 67 percent of average and 85 percent of last year. Darkhorse Lake SNOTEL site has set a new record low snow water content for February 1.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during January was 34 percent of average and 38 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during January was 45 percent of average and 32 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 83 percent of average and 102 percent of last year.



Lima storage was 59 percent of average and 44 percent of last year; Clark Canyon storage was 72 percent of average and 66 percent of last year; and Ruby River storage was 95 percent of average and 110 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.6 in the Beaverhead River; -1.3 in the Ruby River; -3.1 in the Big Hole River; -1.7 in the Boulder River; and -2.7 in the Jefferson River as a whole.

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
LIMA RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	37	53	65	67	82	107	97
	APR-SEP	37	57	70	67	90	120	105
BEAVERHEAD RIVER nr Grant	APR-JUL	23	60	85	64	110	147	132
	APR-SEP	23	66	95	61	124	167	155
BEAVERHEAD RIVER at Barretts (2)	APR-JUL	29	77	110	64	143	191	172
	APR-SEP	38	96	135	67	174	232	203
RUBY RIVER Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	40	55	65	78	75	90	83
	APR-SEP	54	66	75	76	87	104	99
BIG HOLE RIVER at Wisdom	APR-JUL	59	72	80	73	118	173	110
	APR-SEP	14.0	56	85	73	125	183	117
BIG HOLE RIVER nr Melrose	APR-JUL	217	356	450	70	544	683	641
	APR-SEP	237	388	490	70	592	743	697
BOULDER RIVER nr Boulder	APR-JUL	26	52	70	82	88	114	85
	APR-SEP	28	56	75	82	94	122	91
WILLOW CREEK Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	2.8	6.5	9.0	51	13.9	21	17.7
	APR-SEP	3.2	7.6	11.0	55	16.7	25	20
JEFFERSON RIVER nr Three Forks (2)	APR-JUL	292	493	630	64	767	968	985
	APR-SEP	337	553	700	69	847	1063	1012

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
LIMA	84.0	19.6	44.3	33.4
CLARK CANYON	255.6	103.9	156.5	144.7
RUBY RIVER	38.8	22.6	20.6	23.8

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
BEAVERHEAD	8	76	66
RUBY	5	107	74
BIGHOLE	10	68	61
BOULDER	8	111	82
JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN	26	85	69

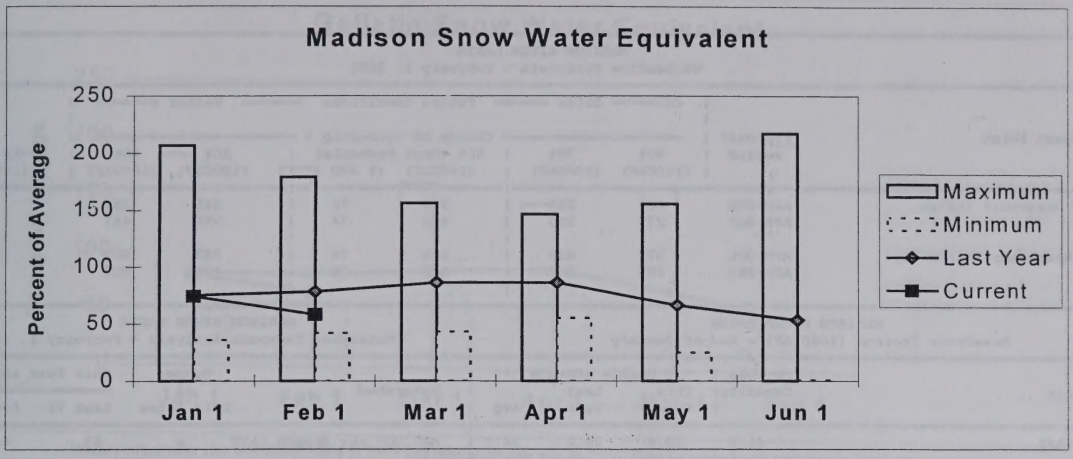
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

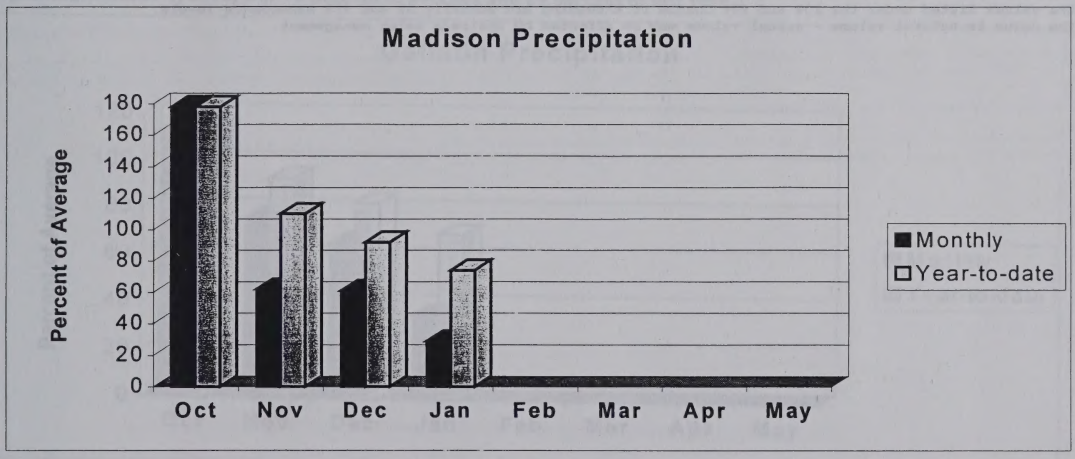
Madison River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Madison River Basin were well below average and second lowest of record behind 1977. Snow water content was 58 percent of average and 74 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1995 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during January was 29 percent of average and 33 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 74 percent of average and 92 percent of last year.



Ennis Lake storage was 87 percent of average and 105 percent of last year and Hebgen Lake storage was 121 percent of average and 92 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.4 for the Madison River.

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
HEBGEN Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	204	249	280	74	311	356	380
	APR-SEP	273	325	360	74	395	447	486
ENNIS Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	372	448	500	76	552	628	662
	APR-SEP	490	582	645	78	708	800	831

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
ENNIS LAKE	41.0	29.6	28.2	34.0
HEBGEN LAKE	377.5	298.2	324.2	246.8

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
MADISON abv HEBGEN LAKE	6	63	46
MADISON blw HEBGEN LAKE	8	83	67
MADISON RIVER BASIN	14	74	58

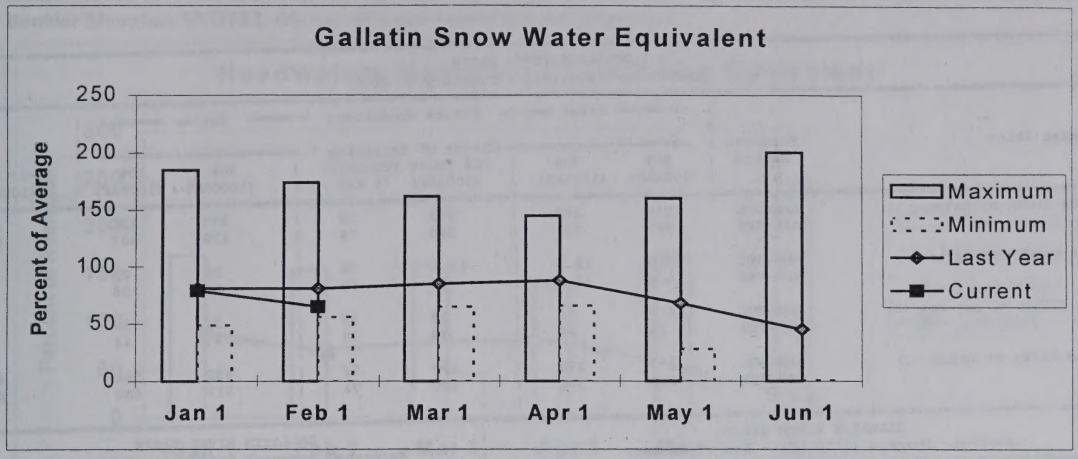
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

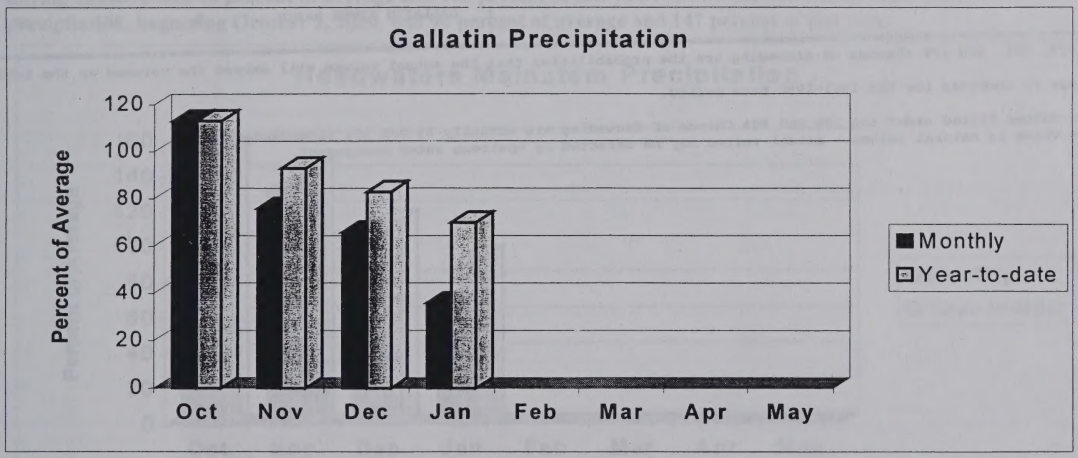
Gallatin River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Gallatin River Basin were well below average and third lowest of record behind 1981 and 1977 respectively. Snow water content was 65 percent of average and 80 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1966; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1981; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977 and 1987; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1987; May maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during January was 35 percent of average and 40 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during January was 55 percent of average and 70 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 70 percent of average and 89 percent of last year.



Middle Creek storage was 114 percent of average and 116 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.5 for the Gallatin River.

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
GALLATIN RIVER nr Gateway	APR-JUL	240	297	335	76	373	430	440
	APR-SEP	287	351	395	76	439	503	518
HYALITE RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	13.8	16.3	18.0	78	20	23	23
	APR-SEP	15.6	18.2	20	77	22	26	26
HYALITE CREEK nr Bozeman (2)	APR-JUL	18.9	25	29	79	32	38	36
	APR-SEP	23	29	33	79	37	44	42
GALLATIN RIVER at Logan (2)	APR-JUL	172	290	370	74	450	568	498
	APR-SEP	210	341	430	74	519	650	581

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
MIDDLE CREEK	10.2	6.6	5.7	5.8

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
UPPER GALLATIN	4	74	65
HYALITE	3	102	72
BRIDGER	2	71	57
GALLATIN RIVER BASIN	9	80	65

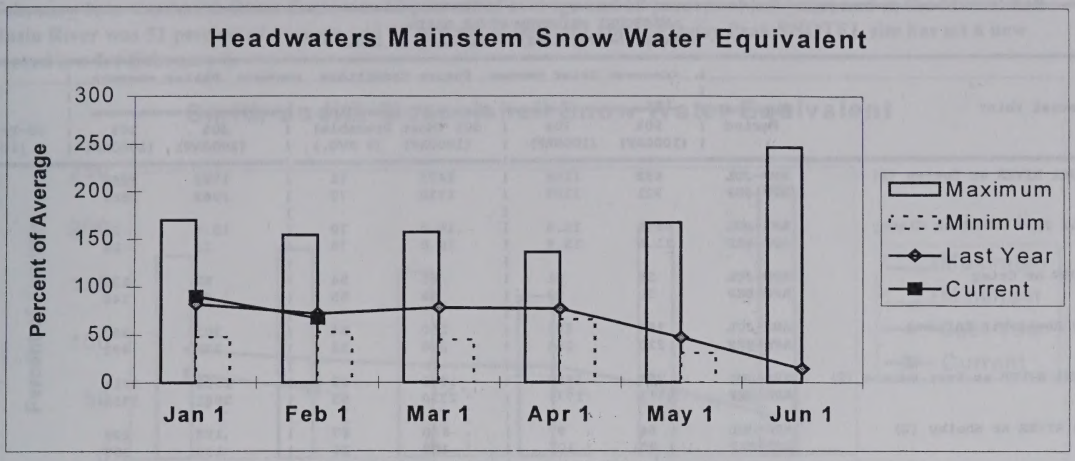
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

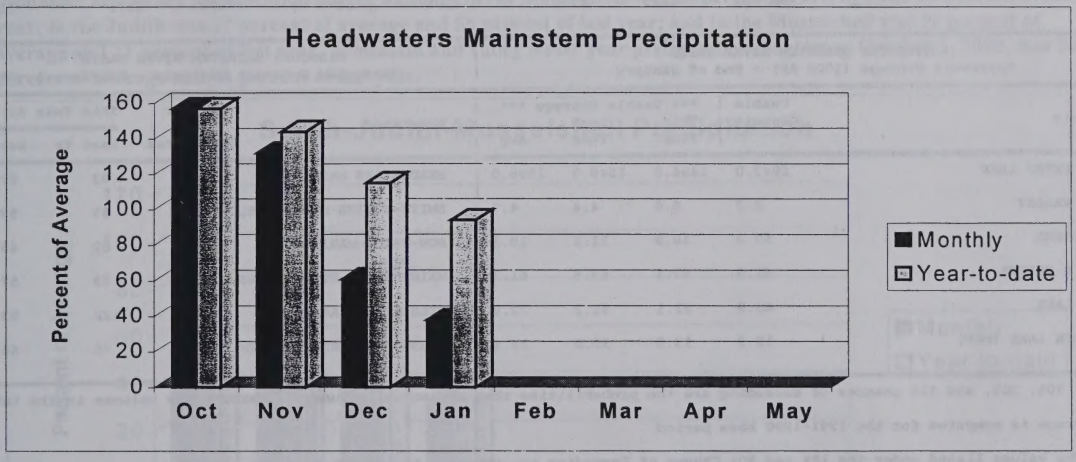
Missouri Mainstem River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Headwaters Missouri Mainstem River Basin were well below average and third lowest of record behind 1977 and 1988 respectively. Snow water content was 67 percent of average and 93 percent of last year. Boulder Mountain SNOTEL site has set a new record low for February 1.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1961; May maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during January was 28 percent of average and 45 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during January was 48 percent of average and 103 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 94 percent of average and 147 percent of last year.



Canyon Ferry Lake storage was 91 percent of average and 95 percent of last year; Helena Valley storage was 128 percent of average and 136 percent of last year; Lake Helena storage was 106 percent of average and the 98 percent of last year; Hauser & Helena storage was 103 percent of average and 99 percent of last year; Holter Lake storage was 111 percent of average and 100 percent of last year; and Fort Peck Lake storage was 87 percent of average and 87 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.0 in the Missouri River above Canyon Ferry; -2.0 in the Missouri River below Canyon Ferry; -3.0 in the Dearborn River near Craig; -1.8 in the Missouri River above Fort Peck; and -1.7 in the Missouri River below Fort Peck.

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
MISSOURI RIVER at Toston (2)	APR-JUL	692	1158	1475	71	1792	2258	2075
	APR-SEP	921	1397	1730	72	2063	2564	2416
PRICKLY PEAR CREEK nr Clancy	APR-JUL	10.1	13.6	16.0	70	19.4	25	23
	APR-SEP	11.6	15.9	19.0	70	23	29	27
DEARBORN nr Craig	APR-JUL	29	51	65	54	92	133	121
	APR-SEP	30	53	69	55	98	140	125
GIBSON Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	186	229	260	54	303	367	478
	APR-SEP	210	258	290	55	335	401	526
MISSOURI RIVER at Fort Benton (2)	APR-JUL	787	1450	1900	62	2351	3014	3087
	APR-SEP	1511	1779	2330	63	2881	3755	3678
MARIAS RIVER nr Shelby (2)	APR-JUL	66	97	120	27	192	298	447
	APR-SEP	80	107	125	26	199	307	487
MISSOURI RIVER at Virgelle (2)	APR-JUL	1093	1621	2075	58	2529	3106	3595
	APR-SEP	1678	1966	2420	57	2874	4048	4217
MISSOURI RIVER nr Landusky (2)	APR-JUL	1282	1864	2260	58	2656	3238	3897
	APR-SEP	1809	2220	2590	57	2960	4397	4580
MISSOURI RIVER below Fort Peck (2)	APR-JUL	1091	1781	2250	56	2719	3409	4015
	APR-SEP	1608	1971	2420	54	2869	4333	4467
LAKE SAKAKAWEA Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	2891	4742	6000	61	7258	9109	9897
	APR-SEP	4425	4772	6300	56	7828	9871	11346

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
CANYON FERRY LAKE	2043.0	1456.0	1540.0	1596.0
HELENA VALLEY	9.2	6.0	4.4	4.7
LAKE HELENA	10.4	10.9	11.1	10.3
HAUSER & HELENA	61.9	63.1	63.6	61.3
HOLTER LAKE	81.9	81.1	81.2	72.9
FORT PECK LAKE (MAF)	18.9	13.0	15.0	14.9

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
HEADWATERS MAINSTEM	8	93	67
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	8	69	59
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	6	52	46
MAINSTEM ab FT PECK RES	21	69	57
MILK RIVER BASIN	10	122	83
MISSOURI MAINSTEM BASIN	31	75	60

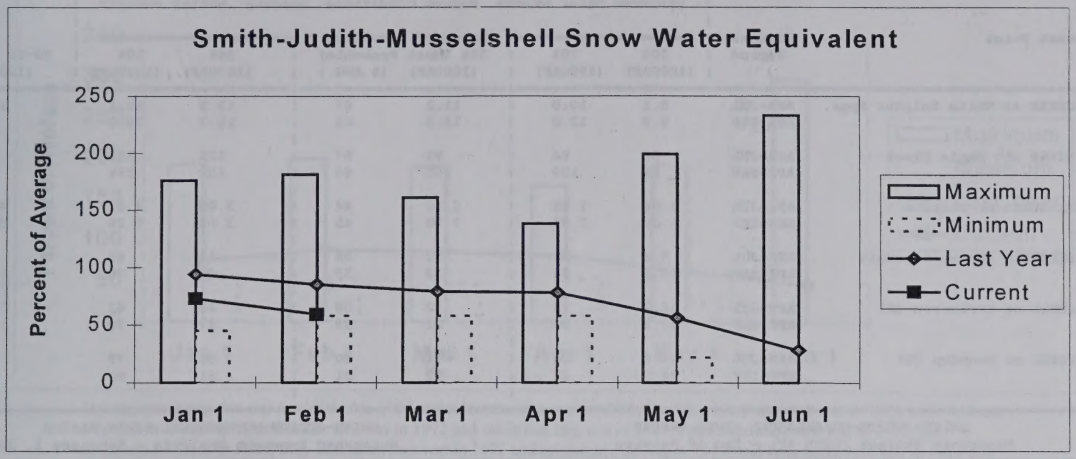
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

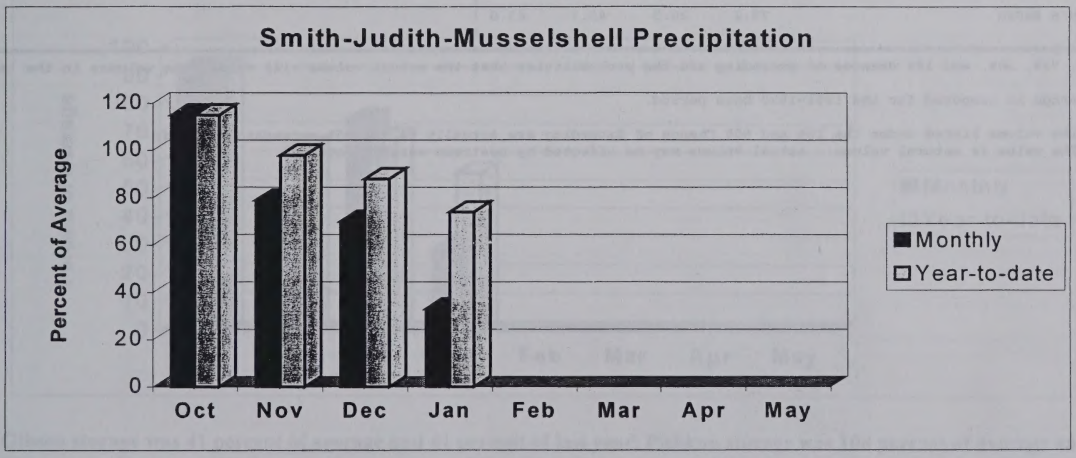
Smith-Judith-Musselshell River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the Smith-Judith-Musselshell River Basins were well below average and second lowest of record tied with 1981 behind 1987. Snow water content in the Smith River Basin was 56 percent of average and 63 percent of last year and the Boulder Mountain and Deadman Creek SNOTEL sites have set new record lows for February 1; in the Judith River Basin was 60 percent of average and 68 percent of last year; and in the Musselshell Basin River was 51 percent of average and 67 percent of last year and the Daisy Peak SNOTEL site has set a new record low for February 1.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1987; March maximum swe was in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1987; April maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1992; and May maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during January in the Smith-Belts was 35 percent of average and 43 percent of last year; in the Judith was 37 percent of average and 56 percent of last year; and in the Musselshell was 16 percent of average and 21 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 74 percent of average and 95 percent of last year.



Smith River storage was 32 percent of average and 43 percent of last year; Bair storage was 39 percent of average and 79 percent of last year; Martinsdale storage was 20 percent of average and 19 percent of last year; and Deadman's Basin was 48 percent of average and 45 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.3 in the Smith River and -3.0 in the Musselshell River.

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
SHEEP CREEK nr White Sulphur Spgs.	APR-JUL	8.1	10.0	11.2	62	13.2	16.1	18.1
	APR-SEP	9.9	12.0	13.5	64	15.7	19.0	21
SMITH RIVER abv Eagle Creek	APR-JUL	68	86	99	57	121	154	175
	APR-SEP	86	109	125	60	152	192	210
NF MUSSELSHELL nr Delpine	APR-JUL	1.06	1.68	2.10	44	3.08	4.52	4.80
	APR-SEP	1.29	2.02	2.50	45	3.62	5.28	5.60
SF MUSSELSHELL abv Martinsdale	APR-JUL	9.4	22	30	58	44	65	52
	APR-SEP	10.6	24	33	58	48	70	56
MUSSELSHELL at Harlowton (2)	APR-JUL	15.9	25	30	38	45	67	80
	APR-SEP	17.4	26	32	39	47	70	83
MUSSELSHELL nr Roundup (2)	APR-JUL	17.0	25	31	30	50	79	104
	APR-SEP	18.0	26	32	31	51	80	105

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
SMITH RIVER	10.6	2.0	4.6	6.3
NEWLAN CREEK		NO REPORT		
BAIR	7.0	1.5	1.9	3.8
MARTINSDALE	23.1	1.8	9.4	9.2
DEADMAN'S BASIN	72.2	20.5	45.7	43.0

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
SMITH	4	63	56
JUDITH	4	68	60
MUSSELSHELL	3	67	51
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	8	69	59

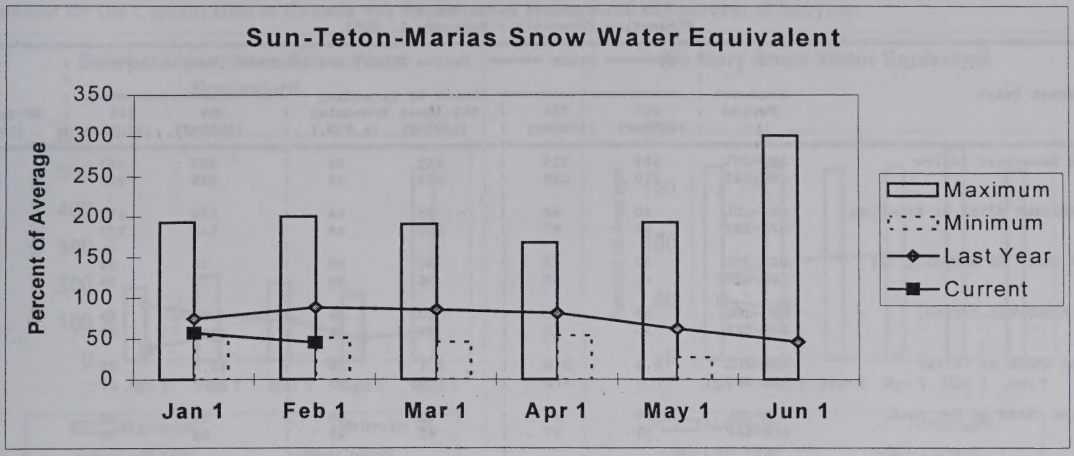
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

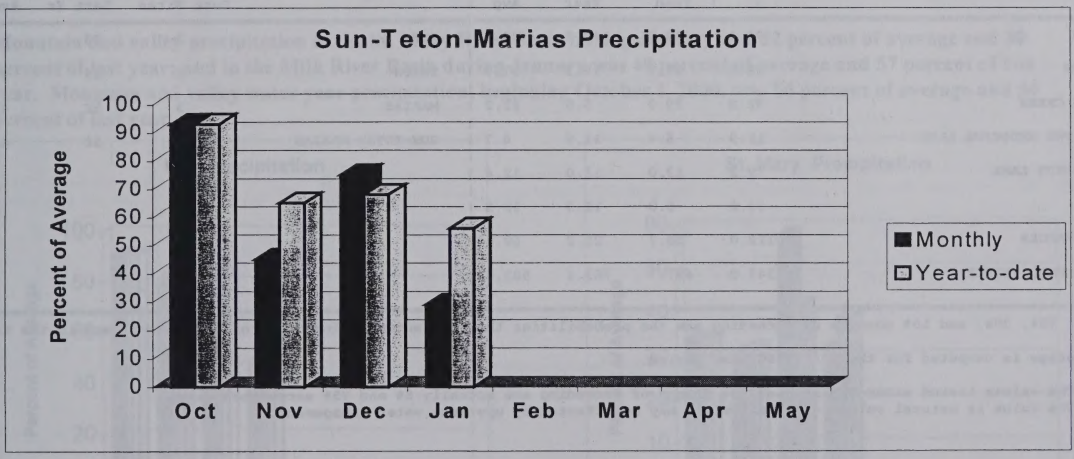
Sun-Teton-Marias River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the Sun-Teton-Marias River Basins were severely below average and at a new record low previously set in 1977. Snow water content in the Sun River Basin was 47 percent of average and 53 percent of last year; in the Teton River Basin was 46 percent of average and 54 percent of last year; and in the Marias River Basin was 43 percent of average and 50 percent of last year with Badger Pass and Pike Creek SNOTEL sites at a new record lows for February 1.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1984; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1984; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum was in 1982 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during January in the Sun was 33 percent of average and 38 percent of last year; in the Teton was 29 percent of average and 26 percent of last year; and in the Marias was 29 percent of average and 30 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 56 percent of average and 51 percent of last year.



Gibson storage was 41 percent of average and 41 percent of last year; Pishkun storage was 108 percent of average and 99 percent of last year; Willow Creek storage was 94 percent of average and 400 percent of last year; Lower Two Medicine Lake storage was 96 percent of average and 54 percent of last year; Four Horns Lake storage was 105 percent of average and 100 percent of last year; Swift storage was 33 percent of average and 41 percent of last year; Lake Frances storage was 30 percent of average and 82 percent of last year; and Lake Elwell (Tiber) storage was 120 percent of average and 89 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.3 in the Sun River; -3.1 in the Teton River; -3.1 in the Birch/Dupuyer Creeks; and -1.6 in the Marias River.

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ====== Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
GIBSON Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	186	229	260	54	303	367	478
	APR-SEP	210	258	290	55	335	401	526
TWO MEDICINE RIVER nr Browning	APR-JUL	60	82	95	44	126	171	215
	APR-SEP	66	87	100	44	131	177	228
BADGER CREEK nr Browning (2)	APR-JUL	32	43	50	48	65	86	104
	APR-SEP	41	52	60	50	76	99	120
SWIFT RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	23	33	40	59	52	69	68
	APR-SEP	30	42	49	61	61	79	80
DUPUYER CREEK nr Valier	APR-JUL	0.3	3.6	6.1	39	12.6	22	15.5
	APR-SEP	0.2	4.2	6.8	39	13.7	24	17.4
CUT BANK CREEK at Cut Bank	APR-JUL	29	37	42	48	53	70	87
	APR-SEP	30	37	43	45	55	73	96
MARIAS RIVER nr Shelby (2)	APR-JUL	66	97	120	27	192	298	447
	APR-SEP	80	107	125	26	199	307	487
TETON nr Dutton	APR-JUL	10.1	19.0	25	42	39	60	59
	APR-SEP	13.7	22	28	41	42	63	68

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
GIBSON	99.1	18.0	43.5	44.2
PISHKUN	32.0	19.2	19.3	17.7
WILLOW CREEK	32.2	20.0	5.0	21.2
LOWER TWO MEDICINE LAKE	11.9	6.4	11.9	6.7
FOUR HORNS LAKE	19.2	13.0	13.0	12.4
SWIFT	30.0	5.0	12.3	15.3
LAKE FRANCES	112.0	20.7	25.2	69.6
LAKE ELWELL (TIBER)	1347.0	697.7	783.4	583.0

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
SUN	2	53	47
TETON	3	54	46
MARIAS	3	52	45
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	6	52	46

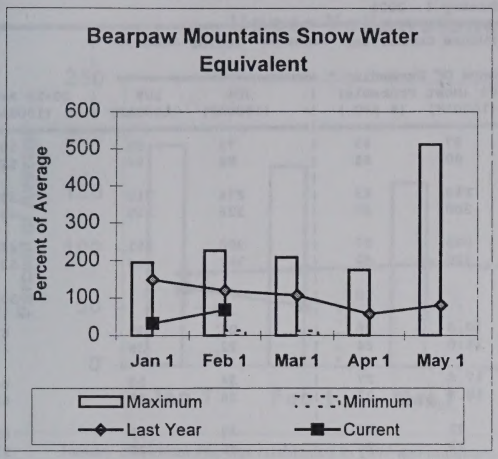
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

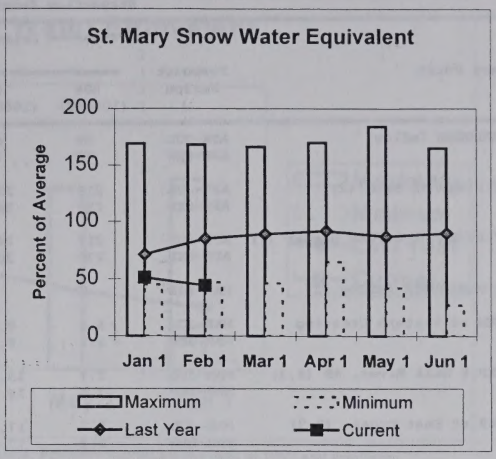
The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

St. Mary and Milk River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the St. Mary and Milk River Basins were well below average. Snow water content in the Saint Mary River Basin was 44 percent of average and 52 percent of last year setting a new record low set before in 1977. Flattop Mountain and Many Glacier SNOTEL sites have set new record low snow water contents for February 1. Snow water content in the Bearpaw Mountains was 75 percent of average and 117 percent of last year. Snow water content for the Cypress Hills in Canada was 90 percent of average and 125 percent of last year.

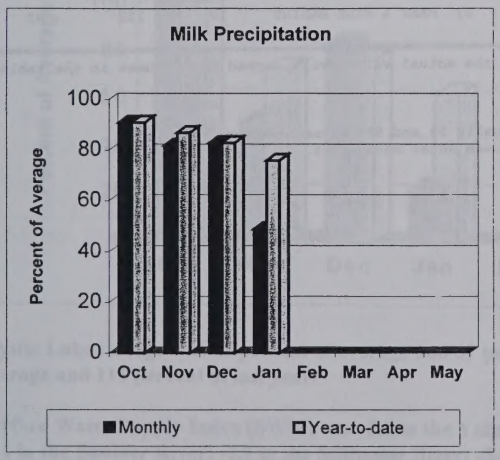


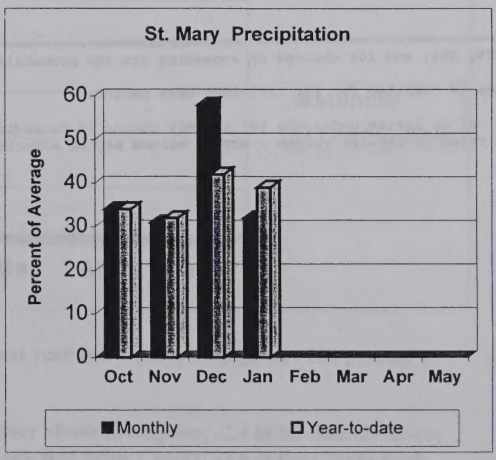


Bearpaw - January maximum swe was established in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1981; February maximum swe was 1978 and minimum was in 1973; March maximum swe was 1978 and minimum swe was 1981; April maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1983; May maximum swe was 1975 and the minimum has occurred in several years. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

St. Mary - January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1992; May maximum swe was in 19972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1991 and minimum swe was 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation in the St. Mary River Basin during January was 32 percent of average and 30 percent of last year; and in the Milk River Basin during January was 49 percent of average and 57 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 56 percent of average and 54 percent of last year.





Lake Sherburne storage was 44 percent of average and 48 percent of last year; Fresno storage was 35 percent of average and 44 percent of last year; Beaver Creek storage was 122 percent of average and 79 percent of last year; and Nelson storage was 33 percent of average and 31 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.8 for the Milk River.

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
LAKE SHERBURNE Inflow	APR-JUL	58	63	67	63	73	82	107
	APR-SEP	71	76	80	64	86	94	125
ST. MARY RIVER nr Babb (2)	APR-JUL	213	233	250	63	274	310	395
	APR-SEP	259	282	300	65	326	365	463
ST. MARY RIVER at US/CAN Border (2)	APR-JUL	217	245	265	57	300	351	462
	APR-SEP	270	302	325	60	362	416	539
ST. MARY RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	MAY-SEP				-0			553
MILK RIVER at Western Crossing	MAR-JUL	5.0	8.3	10.6	26	21	35	42
	MAR-SEP	5.1	8.8	11.0	24	22	39	46
MILK RIVER @ Milk River, AB (2,3)	MAR-JUL	7.7	13.5	17.6	27	34	53	64
	MAR-SEP	7.6	14.6	18.4	27	36	58	69
MILK RIVER at East Cross. (2,3)	MAR-JUL	9.3	17.0	22	26	39	69	85
	MAR-SEP	9.3	17.7	23	24	40	79	93
BEAVER CREEK near Havre	MAR-JUL	0.7	4.4	7.0	68	10.7	16.1	10.3

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
LAKE SHERBURNE	64.3	10.5	21.8	24.0
FRESNO	127.0	17.9	40.3	51.2
BEAVER CREEK	3.5	2.2	2.8	1.8
NELSON	66.8	12.1	39.1	36.4

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
ST. MARY	0	0	0
BEARPAW MOUNTAINS	4	117	75
CYPRESS HILLS, CANADA	6	125	90
MILK RIVER BASIN	9	122	86
ST. MARY & MILK BASINS	10	122	83

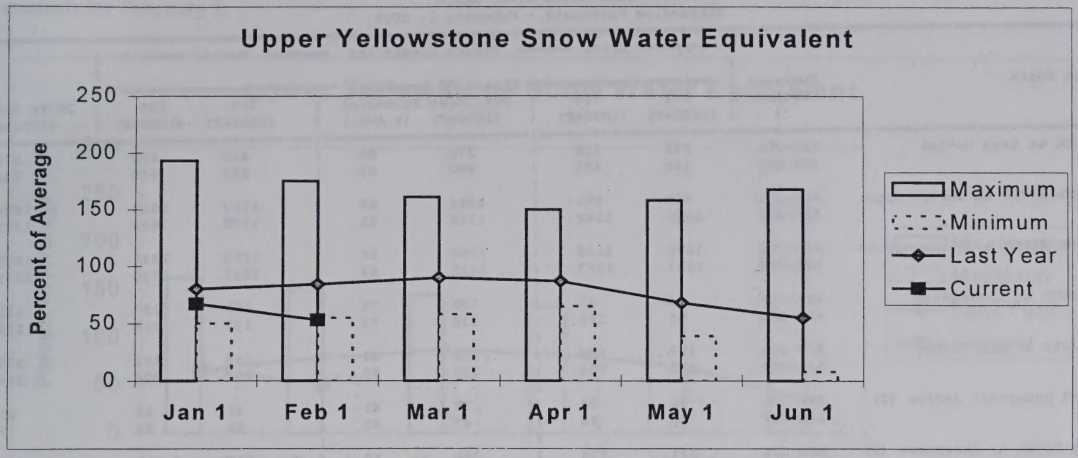
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

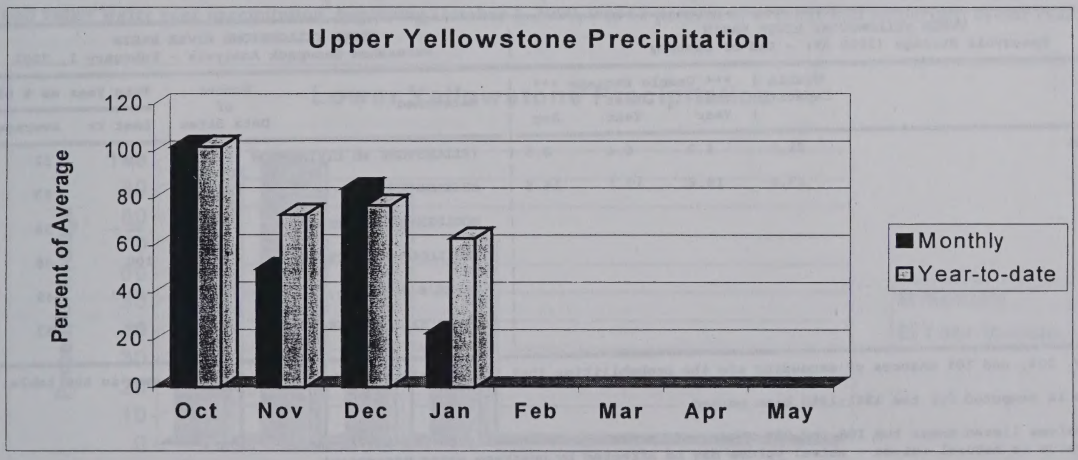
Upper Yellowstone River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Upper Yellowstone River Basin were well below average and tied at a record low with 1977. Snow water content was 53 percent of average and 63 percent of last year. Fisher Creek, White Mill, South Fork Shields, and Box Canyon SNOTEL sites have set new record low snow water contents for February 1. Northeast Entrance and Placer Basin SNOTEL sites have tied the previous record low snow water contents for February 1.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1971 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was 1982 and minimum swe was in 1987 and 1994. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during January was 23 percent of average and 23 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during January was 33 percent of average and 32 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 63 percent of average and 80 percent of last year.



Mystic Lake storage was 51 percent of average and 67 percent of last year and Cooney storage was 134 percent of average and 115 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.8 in the Yellowstone River above Livingston; -2.4 in the Shields River; -3.1 in the Boulder River; -2.9 in the Stillwater River; -3.1 in the Rock/Red lodge Creeks; -3.6 in the Clarks Fork River; and -3.0 in the Yellowstone River above Bighorn River.

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
YELLOWSTONE at Lake Outlet	APR-JUL	292	338	370	65	418	488	573
	APR-SEP	396	451	490	62	553	645	792
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Corwin Spgs.	APR-JUL	869	981	1045	65	1153	1311	1609
	APR-SEP	1046	1162	1250	65	1375	1559	1937
YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Livingston	APR-JUL	1020	1132	1190	64	1293	1445	1855
	APR-SEP	1233	1367	1435	64	1557	1738	2241
SHIELDS RIVER nr Livingston	APR-JUL	63	97	120	74	151	197	162
	APR-SEP	66	104	130	73	165	218	179
BOULDER RIVER at Big Timber	APR-JUL	168	194	215	64	246	291	335
	APR-SEP	175	204	225	62	258	306	364
MYSTIC LAKE Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	31	34	37	61	41	48	61
	APR-SEP	40	44	47	60	52	59	79
STILLWATER RIVER nr Absarokee (2)	APR-JUL	234	274	300	60	343	407	498
	APR-SEP	285	320	350	59	397	466	593
CLARKS FORK RIVER nr Belfry	APR-JUL	266	303	325	61	364	423	532
	APR-SEP	289	325	350	59	390	450	590
COONEY RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	6.1	10.8	30	64	41	57	47
	APR-SEP	9.7	15.4	34	60	45	62	57
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings (2)	APR-JUL	1483	1969	2300	64	2631	3117	3577
	APR-SEP	2313	2374	2730	65	3086	3408	4211

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
MYSTIC LAKE	21.0	4.3	6.4	8.5
COONEY	27.4	19.6	17.1	14.6

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
YELLOWSTONE ab LIVINGSTON	14	62	52
SHIELDS	4	81	63
BOULDER-STILLWATER	3	62	56
RED LODGE-ROCK CREEK	1	100	48
CLARK'S FORK	7	54	49
UPPER YELLOWSTONE BASIN	25	63	53

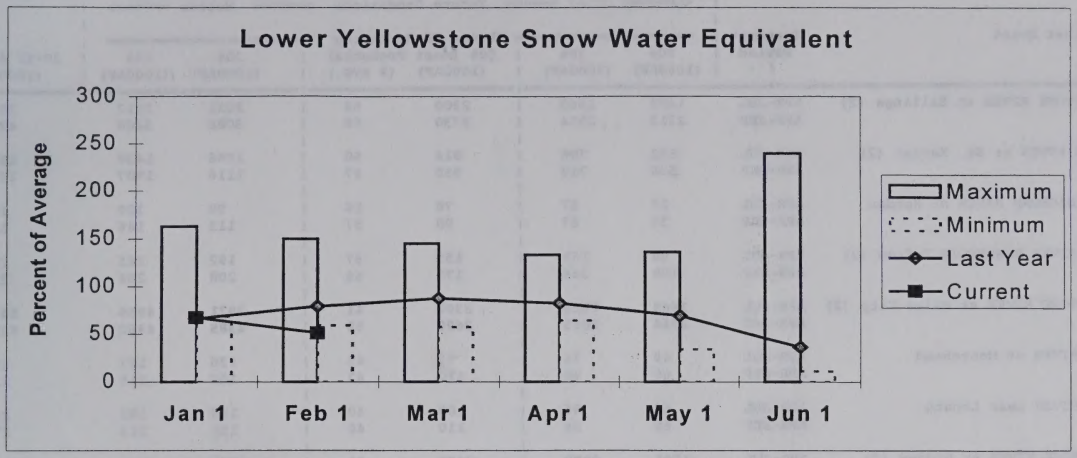
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

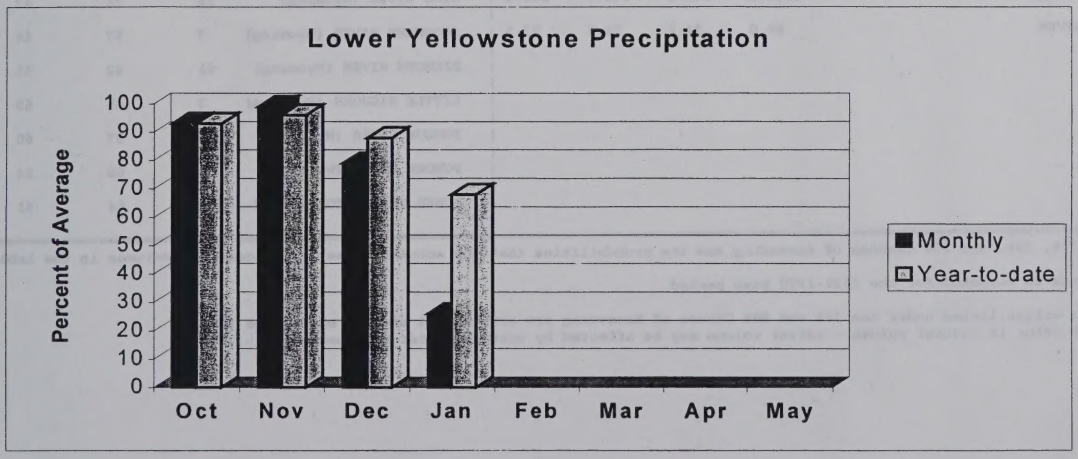
Lower Yellowstone River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Lower Yellowstone River Basin, in Wyoming, were well below average and have set a new record low snow water content previously set in 1981. Snow water content was 51 percent of average and 54 percent of last year. Evening Star, Marquette, Sylvan Lake, Sylvan Road, Kirwin, Onion Gulch, Powder River Pass, Ranger Creek, Timber Creek, Tyrell Ranger Station, and Powder River Pass sites have all set new record low snow water contents for February 1.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; March maximum swe was in 1986 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1986 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; and June maximum swe was in 1995 and minimum swe was in 1994. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during January was 26 percent of average and 23 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2000, was 68 percent of average and 88 percent of last year.



Bighorn Lake storage was 103 percent of average and 92 percent of last year and Tongue River storage was 125 percent of average and 93 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.3 in the Bighorn River below Bighorn Lake; -2.0 in the Little Bighorn River; -2.7 in the Yellowstone River below Bighorn River; -2.2 in the Tongue River; and -3.0 in the Powder River.

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2001

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ====== Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings (2)	APR-JUL	1483	1969	2300	64	2631	3117	3577
	APR-SEP	2313	2374	2730	65	3086	3408	4211
BIGHORN RIVER nr St. Xavier (2)	APR-JUL	542	706	814	50	1066	1438	1645
	APR-SEP	538	718	850	47	1116	1507	1794
LITTLE BIGHORN RIVER nr Hardin	APR-JUL	27	57	78	56	99	129	140
	APR-SEP	34	67	90	57	113	146	157
TONGUE RIVER RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	94	131	155	67	192	245	230
	APR-SEP	108	146	170	66	208	264	256
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Miles City (2)	APR-JUL	1641	2629	3300	61	3971	4959	5431
	APR-SEP	2764	2855	3620	58	4385	4962	6281
POWDER RIVER at Moorehead	APR-JUL	49	76	95	45	136	197	211
	APR-SEP	60	90	110	47	152	213	232
POWDER RIVER near Locate	APR-JUL	68	86	100	40	133	182	252
	APR-SEP	69	94	110	40	152	213	276
YELLOWSTONE RIVER nr Sidney (2)	APR-JUL	1795	2870	3600	61	4330	5405	5925
	APR-SEP	2726	2912	3760	55	4608	5315	6814

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
BIGHORN LAKE	1356.0	865.0	941.9	839.2
TONGUE RIVER	68.0	34.0	36.6	27.1

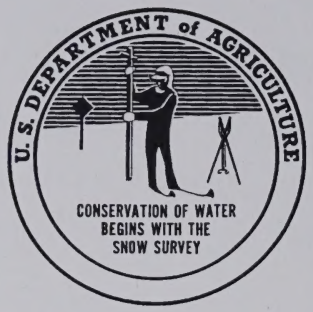
LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2001

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
WIND RIVER (Wyoming)	19	71	47
SHOSHONE RIVER (Wyoming)	7	57	46
BIGHORN RIVER (Wyoming)	21	62	51
LITTLE BIGHORN (Wyoming)	3	65	65
TONGUE RIVER (Wyoming)	9	37	60
POWDER RIVER (Wyoming)	9	69	54
LOWER YELLOWSTONE BASIN (	47	54	51

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



Federal Building, Room 443
10 E. Babcock
Bozeman, MT 59715

Montana
Basin Outlook Report

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Bozeman, MT